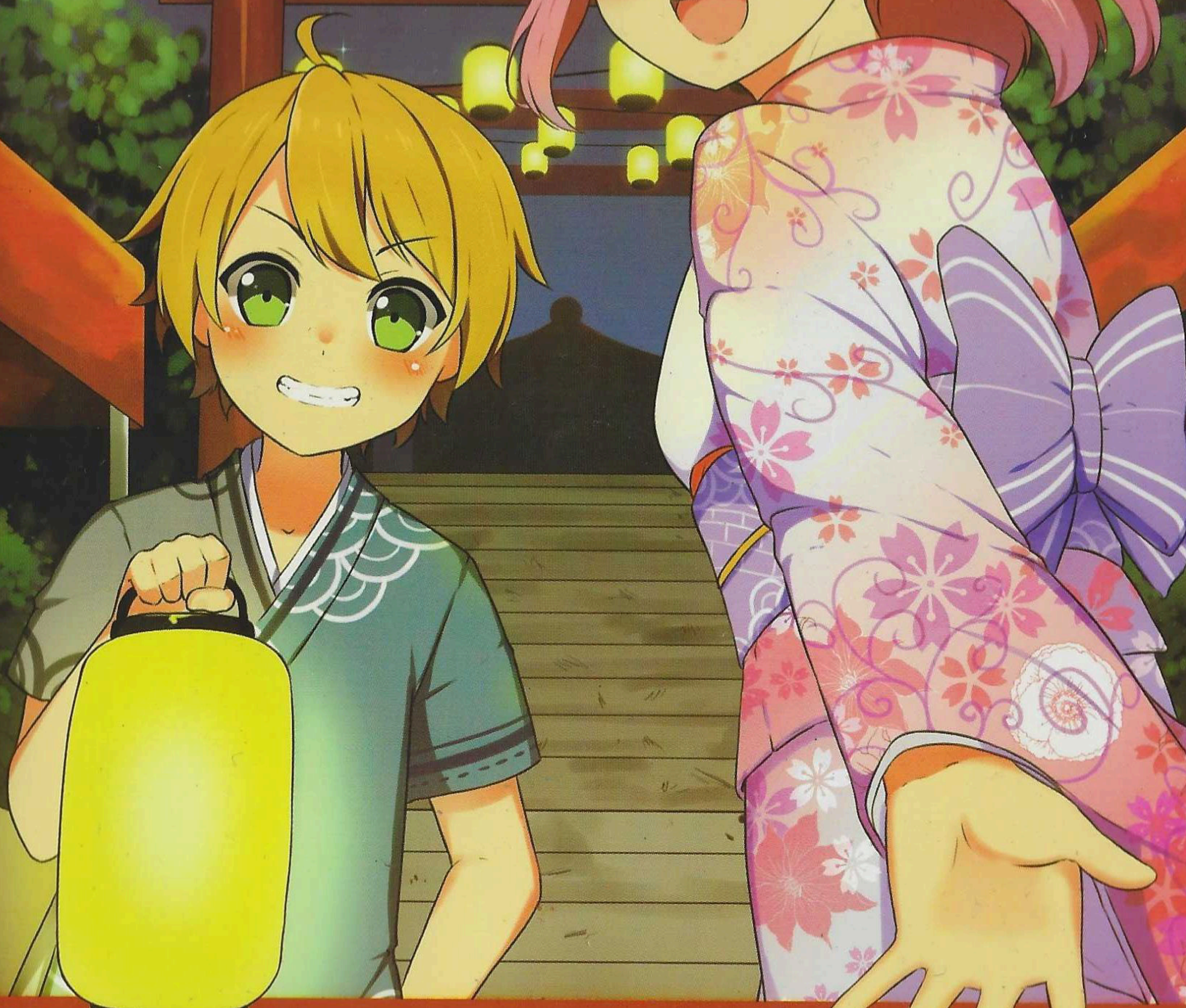


# Otaku Asia

otakuasia.com  
May-June 2016  
Php 100

POSTER INSIDE  
Bishounen Society and  
Tonari no Tsuns

COVER ART BY HEY\_XANDER



O-KUN FIESTA | O-KUN FIESTA | O-KUN FIESTA | O-KUN FIESTA | O-KUN FIESTA | O-KUN FIESTA | O-KUN FIESTA

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# COSPRAY



 COSPRAY  COSPRAY  COSPRAYCOLOR



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Kuma Miko



Re: Zero kara Hajimeru  
Isekai Seikatsu



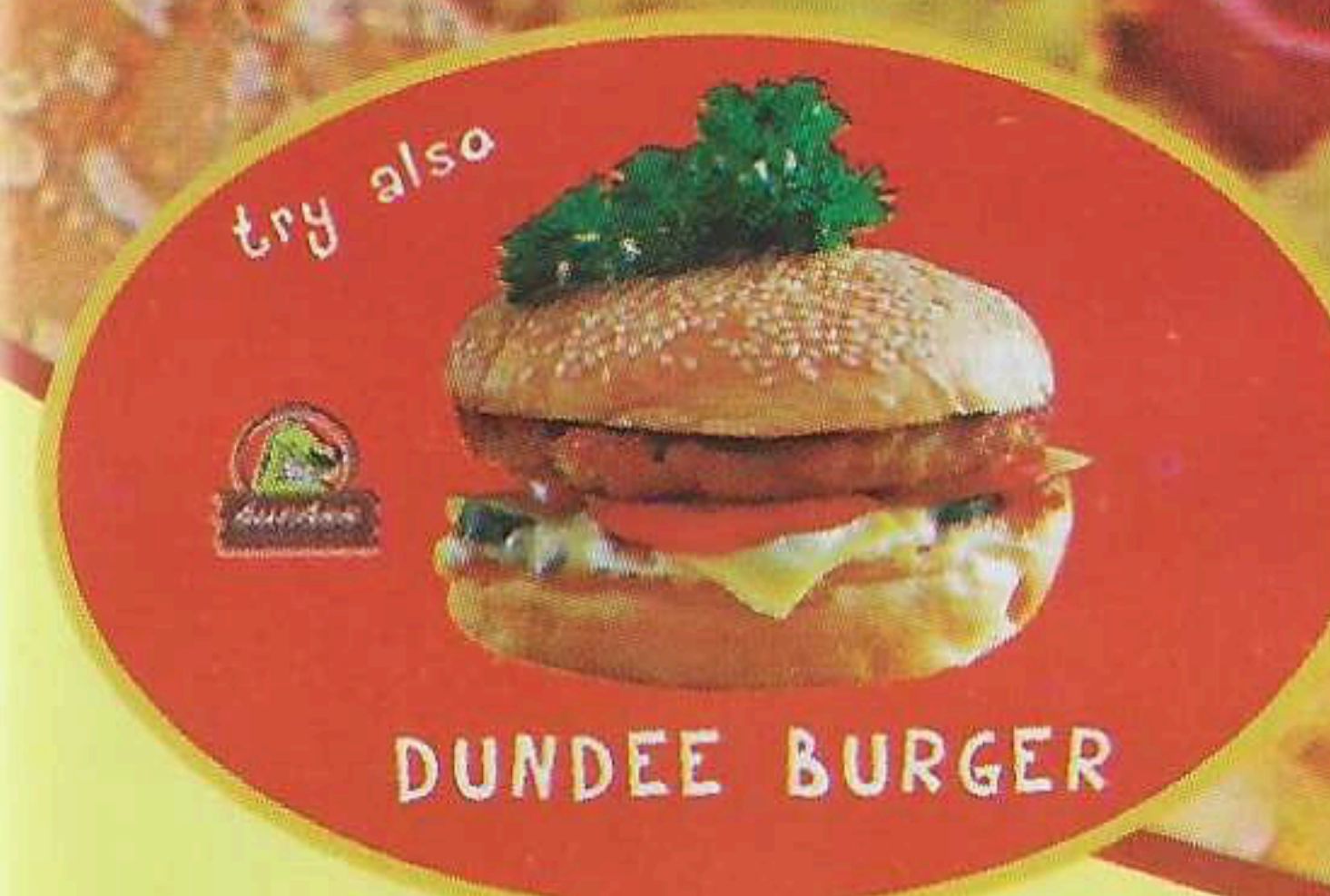
Shounen Maid



48 - Cover Feature  
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and Ash

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We entered our third year with much enthusiasm and a new look! You can expect new segments, more lifestyle and more online presence. We have launched **365 days nendo** on our Instagram and **OA mo Monday** on our Youtube page and soon, more projects on our Facebook and Twitter.

We would also be adding more sections to the magazine that you should enjoy:

ICYMI: list of recently announced upcoming anime

Sinnich!: is a Nihon for the appreciation and love of Japanese culture, people or history. We will be covering Japanese establishment openings in PH, cultural exhibits, events and more!!

学びます: We will be bringing down basic Nihonggo phrases and words!

And hopefully more to come in the next issues!

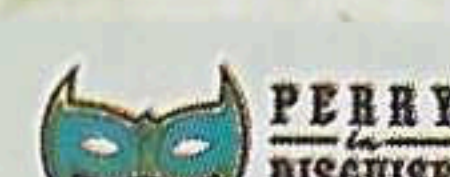
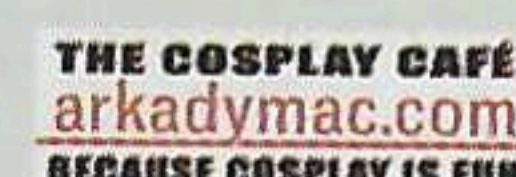
As we celebrate our third year in your service, the team and our contributors thank you all for the support that we have received. Your patronage, Facebook likes and visits to the website, [otakuasia.com](http://otakuasia.com) mean so much to us!!

Otaku Asia wishes to be here in your need. To give you only the latest anime and the worth-watching. To teach you the ways of the otaku and remind you of a wonderful convention. Give you the insights on budding cosplayers and artists right here in PH.

Ask us to teach you how to pick your first sewing machine or how to start an anime cover band. Let us show you how to draw manga and start your own. We will surely be here for you~

-Heloise "Kent" Diamante

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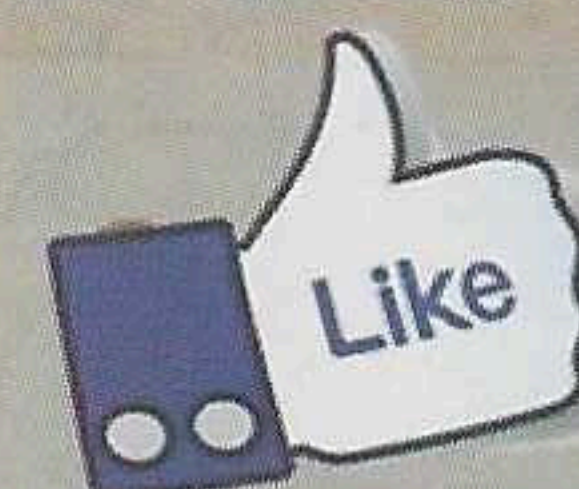


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# THE COSTAKU SHOP

Photography by KL Portraits

Cosplayer: Beru Kashiragu





I can't go to O-kun Fiesta without the forces of the universe to craft my path -- but hear me will of the cosmos, I shall reach that destination yet!

**-Trisha Jem Nicdao**

I can't go to O-kun Fiesta without cosplaying my favorite character.  
(Cosplay spirit FTW)

**-Chase Magno**

I can't go to O-kun Fiesta without a lot of gold coins

## -Vincent Austria

I can't go to O-kun fiesta without enjoying the event itself, cause even though I came to the event and don't even enjoy every minute of it to the fullest it's like I'm not even in the event itself. Every memories, may be bad or good and experiences during this event are mine to enjoy.

**-Jan Paul Agulto**

I can't go to O-kun Fiesta without last year's memory of the same event that found a special place in my heart.

**-Andres Bulate**

I can't go to O-kun Fiesta without my ticket on my right hand and my love one in my left hand.

**-Rhukima Kirei**

I can't go to O-kun Fiesta without money. MONEY IS THE TOOL TO SURVIVE CONS and to completely enjoy the events.

**-Carlo de Ocampo**

I can't go to o-kun fiesta without preparing my soul for all the fangirling and loco moments that i'll surely be spending with friends~  
haha! XD

**-Miki Kun**



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[www.cosplayauthority.com/manila](http://www.cosplayauthority.com/manila)





What is it that you always bring to a convention?  
There are a lot of things, but I can't go to a convention without my camera for vlogging! I feel incomplete whenever I have to leave it behind.

**-Nico Nico Alien**

I can't go to O-kun without... nah~ I will definitely go to O-kun!! No excuses!!

**-Tachi Aoi**

I can't go to O-Kun fiesta without energy, so I can chase after cosplayer to take pictures, drop in booth by booth, and stroll the venue all day.

**-Lieve Le Faun Levesque**

I can't go to O-kun fiesta without my cellphone so I can take a photo and video of all that gonna happen in the event because this will be my first. That's why I want to treasure and come in this awesome event.

I can't go to O-kun Fiesta without my 100% ENERGY~! YOSH!

**-Hideo Suzuki**

**-Rhealyne Mula Cruz**

I can't go to O-kun Fiesta without my Camera!!! I'm gonna take photos of the event, the booths, and the cosplayers! I had fun last year and I wanna have fun again this year!!!  
Photos = Fun memories

I can't go to O-kun Fiesta without Tears Pain and Suffering...

Tears= asking your parents for permission

Pain=you realize you don't have money but go anyway & Senpai still hasn't notice you

Suffering= from commuting to go to the venue

**-Justine Rells**

**-Tiffany Nicole Jacobs**

I can't go to O-Kun Fiesta without my camera. I want to took the picture of all the cosplayer that will be there.

**-Akio Asamiya**

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# FLOOR PLAN

## O-kun Fiesta 2

June 4-5, 2016  
Function Room 1  
SMX Convention Manila  
Pasay City

### ARE YOU READY FOR PART 2?

Otaku Asia Magazine has been filling their pages with cosplay tutorials, local cosplayer interviews, books and articles on Japanese culture, Japanese dishes recipes and anime and manga art tutorials. The magazine has always wanted to BRING OUT THE OTAKU by showing readers that being an otaku is not simply a hobby of watching anime: the community is able to produce future artists, photographers, dressmakers, crafters and more.

In 2015, rather than just educating through the magazine, the team wished to bring the Otaku Asia mission to a community event, O-kun Fiesta. The first event garnered over 2,500 attendees in just one day. Partnering with local groups and communities, the

program was graced with a kimono fashion show and lecture, drawing and toy photography contest, a cosplay and a singing contest. We also hosted the annual Cosplay Costume of the Year 2014 awards.

Otaku Asia already started with the magazine. We've featured cosplayers, photographers, collectors, artists and organizations that make up our community. We've drawn tutorials, how-to's and maps to share knowledge. We've written researches and reviews. We've watched anime, stage plays and movies; read manga and novels and played games; all to bring out the otaku in you.

Now the challenge is to bring the same vibe in a bigger scale.

### ARTIST ALLEY

A1 TwoTonedHue	A5 Yukatsu
A2 ARTBP	A6 Inkjinks
A3 InuAiNeko	A7 PENguin
A4 Sinagtala	

### E- AREA

E18	ARTBLQ
E25-E26	COSMIC BYTES COSPLAY SHOP
E5-E6	COSPLAY MEDICS PH
E31-E32	THE COSTAKU SHOP
E29	ERCEL'S COSPLAY SHOPPE
E9	HATAH HATAH / GWYSHOP
E23	HEROINE COMPLEX
E24	KIXKILLRADIO
E3	LONG LIVE PLAY PH
E1	MACKOLEKTIBOLZ
E4	MARG'S STUFF BOX
E27-E28	MICARI'S ANIME SHOPPE
E11	OH MYGD SHIRTS
E10,E15-16	OTAKU'S DEN
E21	Orca Anishoppe
E13-E14	PERKEE PERSONALIZED ITEMS
E8	PERRY IN DISGUISE
E12	PIXITATO ARTWORKS
E2	RED MONSTER SHOP
E17	SAIKI'S TOYLAND
E22	SERENDIPITY BTQ
E20	THE SWORD MASTER
E30	TONARI NO TSUNS~
E7	WATTATOYS HOBBY & COLLECTIBLES

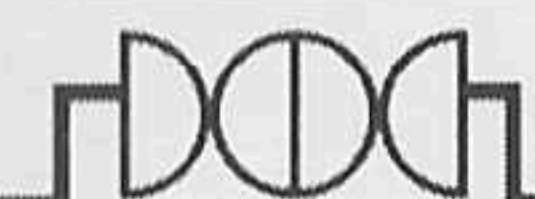
### S-AREA

S1	HUBBYTE
S2	Display Area
S3	Cospray Haircolor
S4	UNMEI NIHONGO CENTER

### STAGE

A5					PSICOM BOOTH
A4					
A3					
A2					A7
A1					A6
E6	E12 E18	E24 E30	E32		
E5	E11 E17	E23 E29	E31		
E4	E10 E16	E22 E28	F10		
E3	E9 E15	E21 E27	F9		
E2	E8 E14	E20 E26	F8		
E1	E7 E13	E19 E25	F7		
S1	S2 S3	S4 S5	F6		
			F5		
			F4		
			F3		
			F2		
			F1		

Photobooth



### FOOD BOOTH

F6	BIG J SAUSAGES
F10	COSTAKU FOOD BOOTH
F3	HERO SAUSAGES
F5	MANANG JOY
F8	YAMAYO
F1-F2	YOSHINOYA

\*list is correct at the time of printing.  
Subject to change without prior notice.

Ticket Price: P150



## GUESTS

### LITTLE THINGS PH

Ivyree Rosario

Comic Tutorial | Magazine Signing

### TONARI NO TSUNS

Angel Ayanami & Nico Nico

Panel | Cosplay Parade Judge | Magazine & Poster Signing (Issue # 31)

### BISHOUNEN SOCIETY

Aldrich Obsuna & Chun WX

Panel | Cosplay Parade Judges | Magazine & Poster Signing (Issue # 31)

### YURI NANAMI & EIRI MINA

Magazine & Poster Signing (Issue # 28)

### COSPLAY MEDICS PH

Alec Descallar

### MOONSTRUCK CREATIVES

Romeo Encisa Jr.

## HOSTS

JILLIAN

NARU

ENVY

## LECTURERS

## SCHEDULE OF ONSTAGE ACTIVITIES

### DAY 1: SATURDAY

- 10:00 AM Event opens
- 11:00 AM Program start  
Moonstruck Creatives  
Romeo Encisa Photography 101
- 12:00 NN Cosplay Medics PM  
Alec Descallar Wig fix tutorial
- 2:00 PM Karaoke Contest
- 4:00 PM Cosplay Panel  
Bishounen Society &  
Tonari no Tsuns
- 5:00PM Little Things  
Ivyree Rosario  
Comic tutorial
- 6:00 PM Winner  
announcements  
Program ends
- 7:00PM Event closes

## OFFSTAGE ACTIVITIES:

### DAY 2:

- 10:00 AM Registration for Cosplay  
Parade and Drawing  
contest opens
- 12:00 NN Magazine signing  
Bishounen Society
- 2:00 PM Magazine signing  
Little Things Ivree  
Rosario
- 5:00 PM Deadline of Drawing  
contest entries

## OFFSTAGE ACTIVITIES:

### DAY 1:

- 10:00 AM Registration for Karaoke  
and Toy Photography  
opens
- 12:00 NN Magazine signing  
Tonari no Tsuns
- 4:00 PM Magazine Signing  
Eiri Mina & Yuri  
Nanami
- 5:00 PM Deadline of Toy  
Photography entries

### DAY 2: SUNDAY

- 10:00 AM Event opens
- 11:00 AM Pixitoto Artworks  
Drawing tutorial
- 12:00 NN Moonstruck Creatives  
Romeo Encisa - Post  
Production tutorial
- 2:00 PM Unmei Nihongo Tutorial  
Jayson Beltrano Basic Japanese
- 3:00 PM Cosplay Parade
- 5:00 PM Kixkillradio  
Sheng Gonzales Toy  
Photography Tutorial
- 6:00 PM Winner nnouncements  
Program ends
- 7:00 PM Event closes





HOOKED BOOK

# JAPANESE TATTOOS

by Brian Ashcraft and Hori Benny  
review by kent

When the Japanese Yakuza are being portrayed in anime or even in Western movies, they are almost always sporting big tattoos or *irezumi*.

In anime, a world we recognize more, tattoos are often magical symbols or crests of royalty. Sometimes even unexplained face tattoos make a character more mysterious and powerful.

If you are thinking of getting inked one day and have decided that it should only be Japanese-inspired, well, this is a book to help you with just that.

Readers will be able to avoid tattoos that they can't understand or will regret. The book writes about the Japanese history of tattooing, iconography and kanji symbols.

Of course it will also feature traditional *tebori* (hand-poked), kanji, modern works and anime-inspired - as well as everything in-between.

Since tattoo is a visual art, expect over 300 images and feature interviews with Japanese tattoo artists on a variety of topics and even clients! They will discuss what their Japanese tattoos mean to them.

If the name Brian Ashcraft is familiar it could be because you read Kotaku where he is Senior Contributing Editor. Resides in Osaka and has written books and articles about the Japanese history, culture and design.

Hori Benny is a tattoo apprentice in Osaka's America Mura district at Chopstick Tattoo. His own shop: [horibenny.com](http://horibenny.com)

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## COSPLAY

compiled by: Lizac 3.0  
(all answers provided by Tonari no Tsuns)

# Tonari no Tsuns

They're beauty, they're grace,  
they'll give the tsun vibe to your face.



Here is Tonari no Tsuns, an all-girls cosplay group in the Philippines formed in the year 2012. Their amazing cosplays individually earned a following not only in the country, but in other parts of the world. Needless to say, as a group, they are unstoppable. Let's get to know the next door tsunderes and their inspirations into doing remarkably accurate cosplays.



Forming the group and coming up with the group's name

Nico came up with the group's name as she was brainstorming with fellow tsun **Angel Ayanami**. Since most of the members display the "tsundere" attitude from time to time, we agreed it was a fitting name. **Tonari no Tsuns** or **your neighbor Tsuns** as we'd like to put it sounds fun and intriguing, doesn't it? Angel, Reika, and Nico met way back around 2008, while Mimi and Faye used to have a KPop group, and then during Vocafusion we got together to form a Vocaloid 3 group, and the rest was history!

## Getting to know each Tsun



Despite being in a tsun-tsun cosplay group the members would of course have their own personalities:

**Faye** is the boyish type, and is endearingly called the "dragon" by close friends. She loves to cosplay characters in "Seifuku" (sailor uniform). She also loves to crossdress. Faye loves to cook and eat. She and her boyfriend love discovering new restaurants and food. She also loves to watch movies and TV series. Her favorites are The Walking Dead, Game of Thrones and The Vampire Diaries.

**Angel** is the smallest member of the group, one of the reasons why she always cosplays "Loli" characters, and most of her cosplays are from anime. Her favorite character is Rei Ayanami from Neon Genesis Evangelion, that's why there is "Ayanami" in her Cosplay name. She also wants to read more books and to travel more places in Philippines. Aside from work and learning Nihongo, Angel likes to watch anime and read manga.

**Nico** is known for her love for Pandas. Most of her friends call her that because of her immense love for them! Nico also likes to tell people to "always be kind". Nico likes to make YouTube videos, learn languages, paint, read books, and play games.

**Mimi** is well known for her Alice Liddell (Hattress ver. from Alice:Madness Returns). She met a lot of people after that and also gained friends from other countries. Her favorite character is Sebastian Michaelis. Mimi's hobbies include video games and watching movies. She also tends to try random hobbies now and then, just to see what clicks, like wall climbing, air-soft, etc.

**Audrey** comes off as someone who's arrogant because of her natural facial expression, but those who have known and worked with her think otherwise. Friends refer to Audrey as "the troll", always in for a laugh and trapping people into her humorous stories. Aside from being a student council treasurer, she is also a lector in her parish and an officer in several other organizations.

**Reika** has been cosplaying sexy females and bishounen males. She also likes characters from games and anime series from her childhood. Reika likes to watch US TV series such as "The Walking Dead" and "Game of Thrones". She also likes travelling.



## On photo shoots and costumes

We have photographer friends who we collaborate with. Coming up with themes go both ways; it's either us or the photographers. We are also open to invitations as long as they comply with our standpoint. As for the costumes, at the beginning we had tailors to make our costumes; but as we learned more about the hobby, we started making our own costumes. At the moment, we mostly make our costumes by ourselves with the help of our friends, and each other!



**Faye Liper**  
**Asuka Langley Soryu (Neon Genesis Evangelion)**  
Photo by lenekopotato



**Angel Ayanami**  
**Krul Tepes (Owari no Seraph)**  
Photo by Donnie Medina

## The feeling of belonging to a group like Tonari no Tsuns

Cosplaying alone gives you the freedom to go for whichever character you want, when you're in a group you sometimes have to give up that character, but that's okay too, because being in a group lets you do things you can't do alone. We tend to choose to cosplay from Anime or Games that have multiple characters to choose from like; Love Live, Vocaloid, and 7th Dragon 2020. You have a set of friends who inspire you to improve your cosplay. They have your back if a wig is out of style, or if there's a loose pin on your costume. You also don't have to feel alone or out of place at a convention with a lot of people. Conflicts and misunderstanding may occur but resolving these things makes the friendship grow stronger, and improve our individual personality.

We help and support each other!

## Accepting other cosplayers into the group

We don't think we will be open to accepting new members, since we've been friends for years, and we've been through a lot! Accepting a new member might make things complicated,

but new friends are always welcome. Although, it's not something you can just ask for. It just sort of happens!



**Reika Amakura**  
**Freddie Krueger (Kotobukiya Bishoujo Ver. Nightmare on Elm Street)**  
Photo by Mark Anthony Agbayani

facebook.com/DynastyPhoto

## A message to followers and fans

Everyone started from somewhere; just believe in yourself.

We have learned a lot from this hobby, from time management, how to connect with other people, how to apply make-up, sewing, crafting, and being tough despite of cyber bullying. We hope you also learn a lot! Cosplay the characters you love, and don't do it halfheartedly, or for fame.

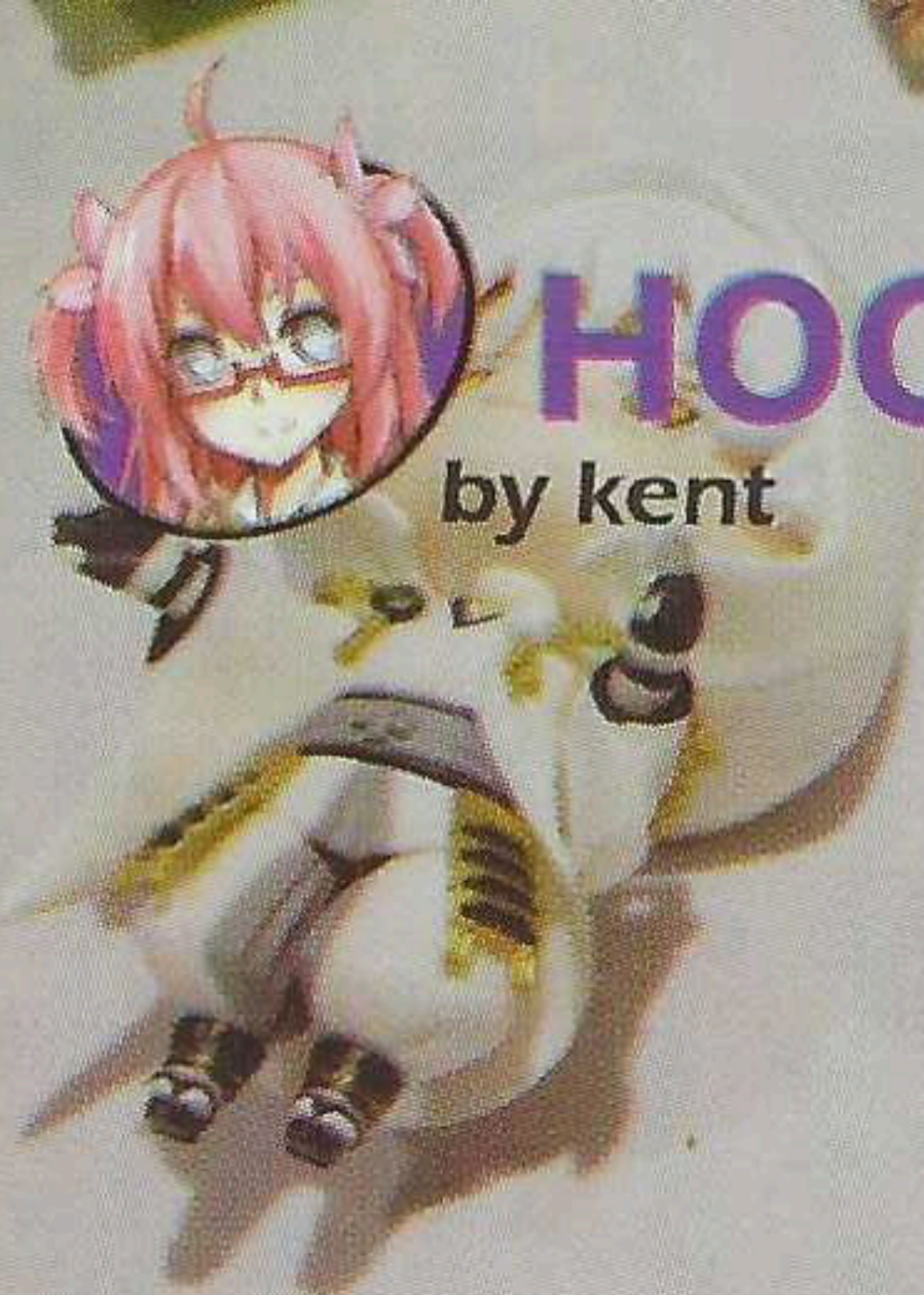
Always be kind!



**Mimi Monster**  
**Noel Vermillion (Blazblue Chrono Phantasma)**  
Photo by Joel Aragones

otaku Asia Magazine Issue #31





# HOOKED BOOK

by kent



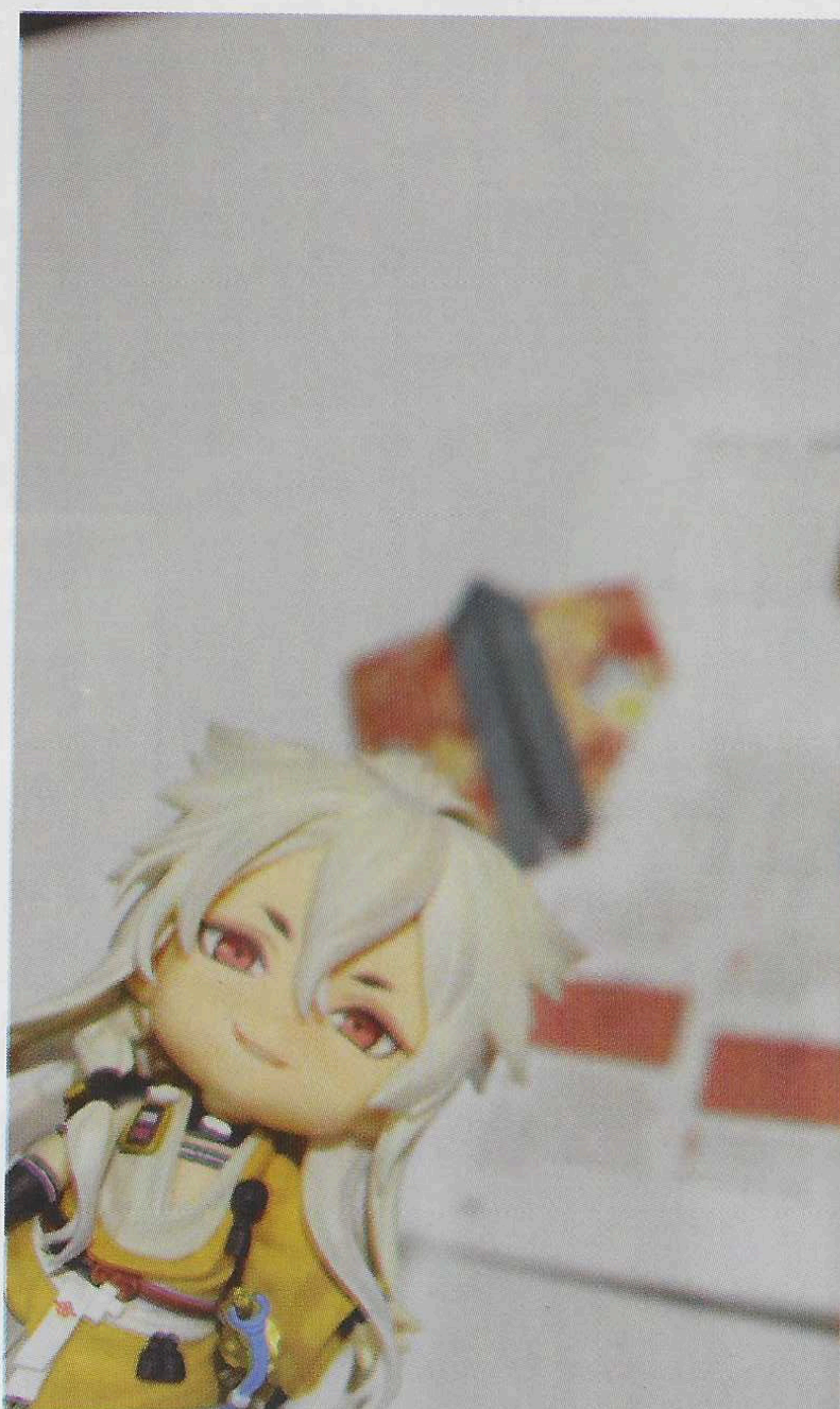
Well, If I had to say something, I can follow instructions but cannot usually remember the pattern afterwards. Origami is the art of paper folding and can be done by anyone. However, beautiful crafts come out from good paper handling and good paper itself.

The Japanese Origami for Beginners kit includes a 96-page book with full color of instructions of 20 classic projects. If a book is not for you, there is also a DVD with 100 minutes of video instructions.

The biggest win I got with this kit was the 72 sheets of 6" X 6" double sided patterns folding papers. As a Japanese enthusiast, I almost did not want to use them!!

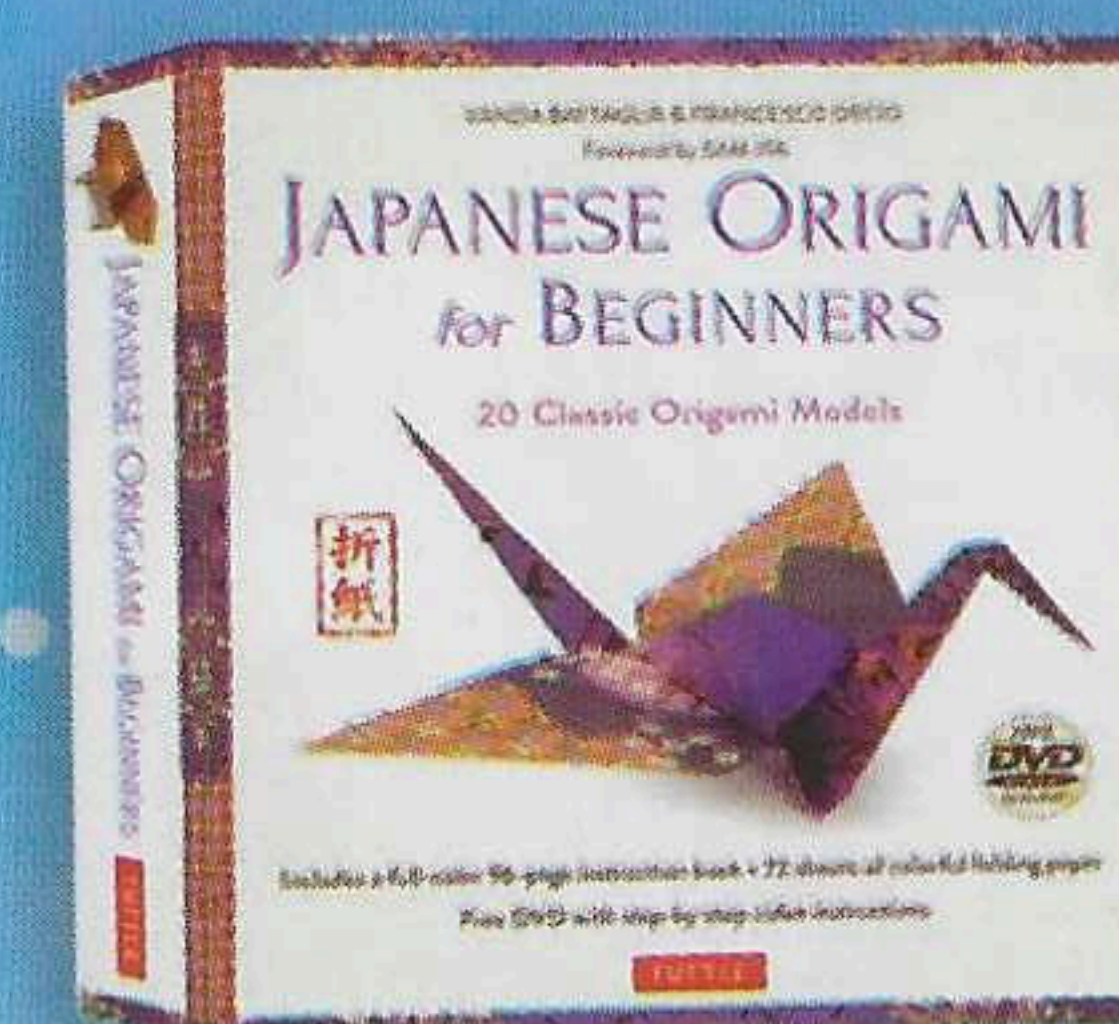
Origami is an ideal activity for children since paper folding develops dexterity and creativity. Origami is also a craft based on a few fundamental 3D folding techniques, so Japanese Origami for Beginners Kit is a useful starting point for fans of all ages and abilities. Although this book is aimed at origami beginners, it contains projects suitable for origami fans of all ages and abilities and is the perfect book for all those who enjoy making things with their hands.

Enjoy!

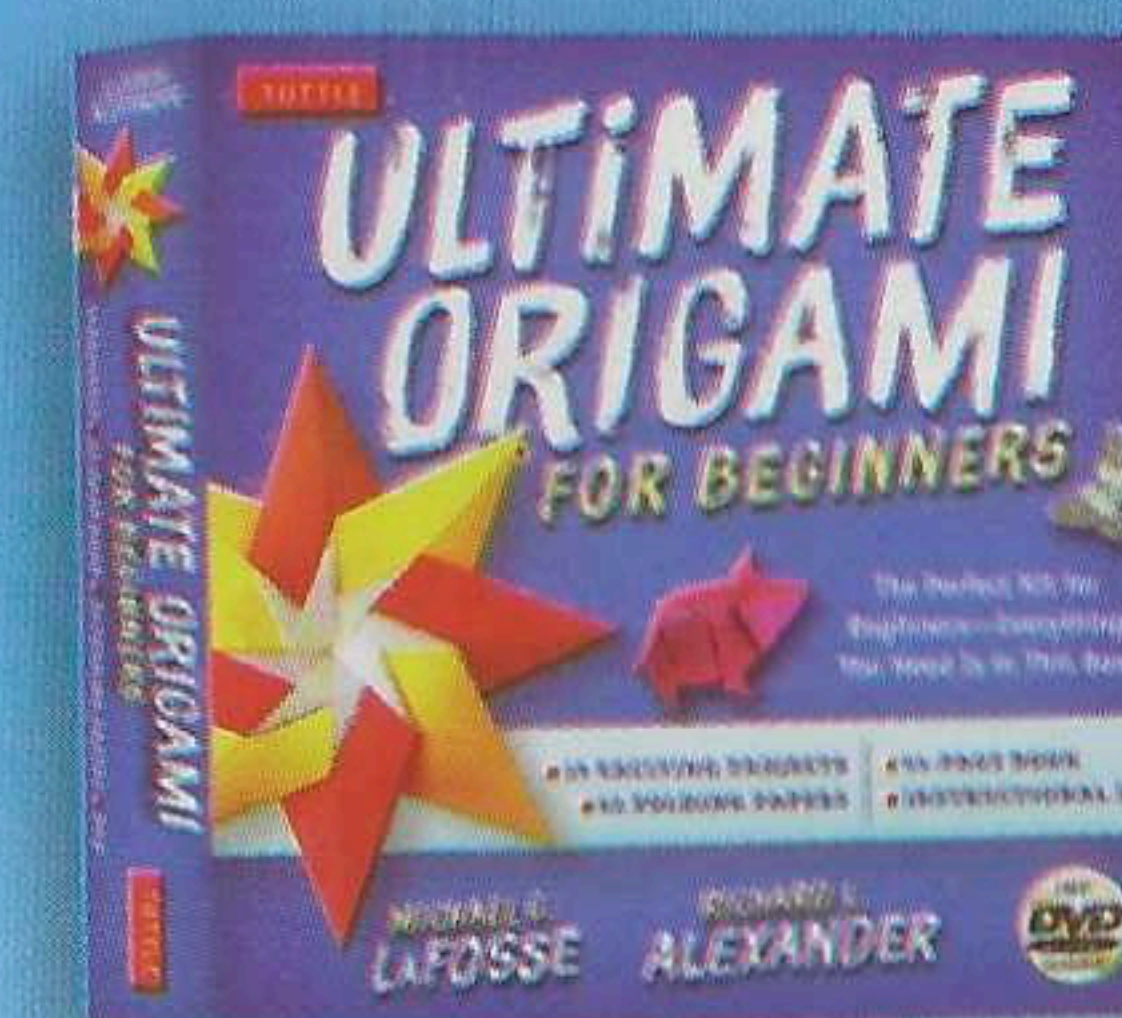


Great Gifts from

TUTTLE



ISBN: 978 0 8048 4543 4



ISBN: 978 4 8053 1267 4



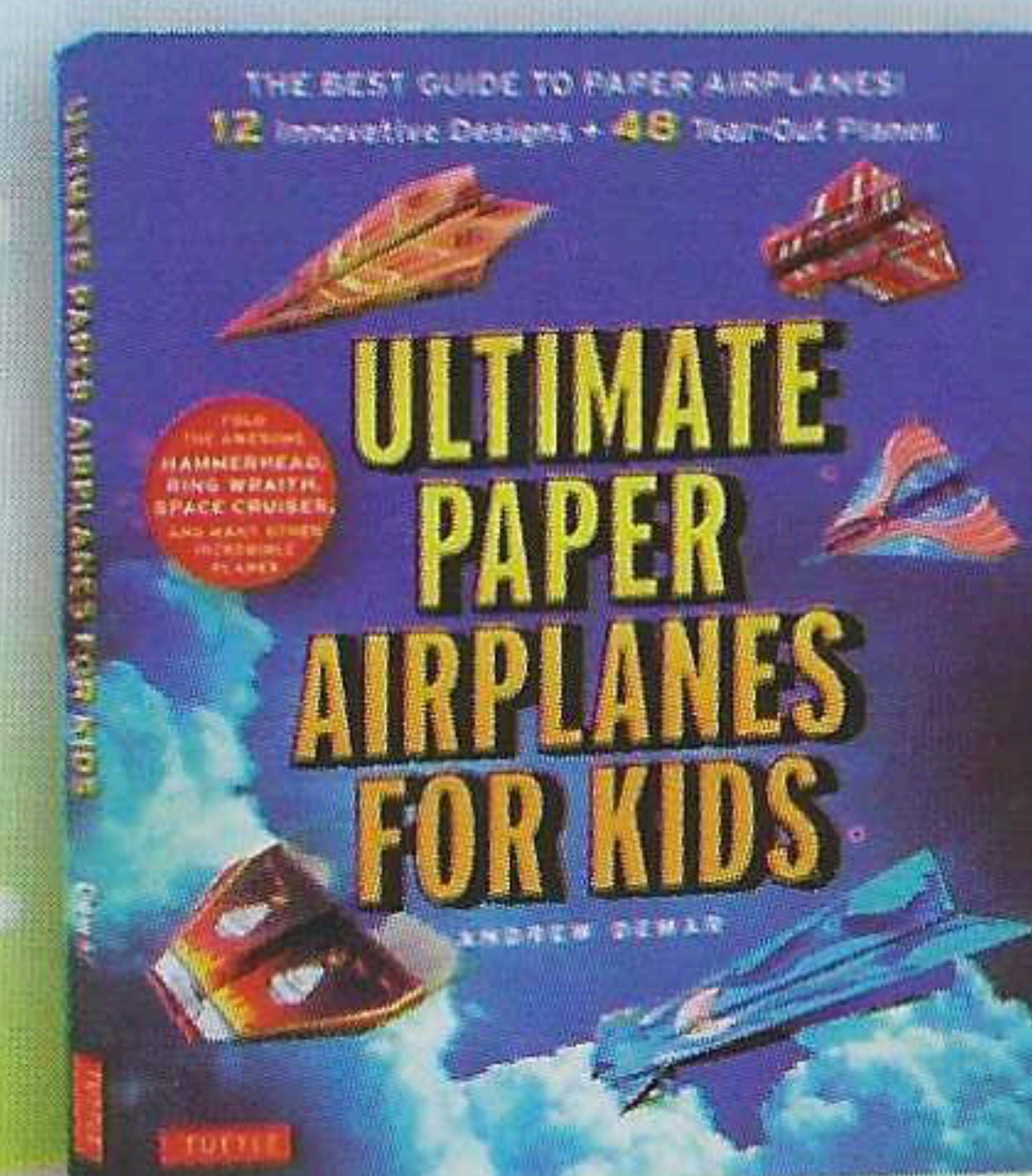
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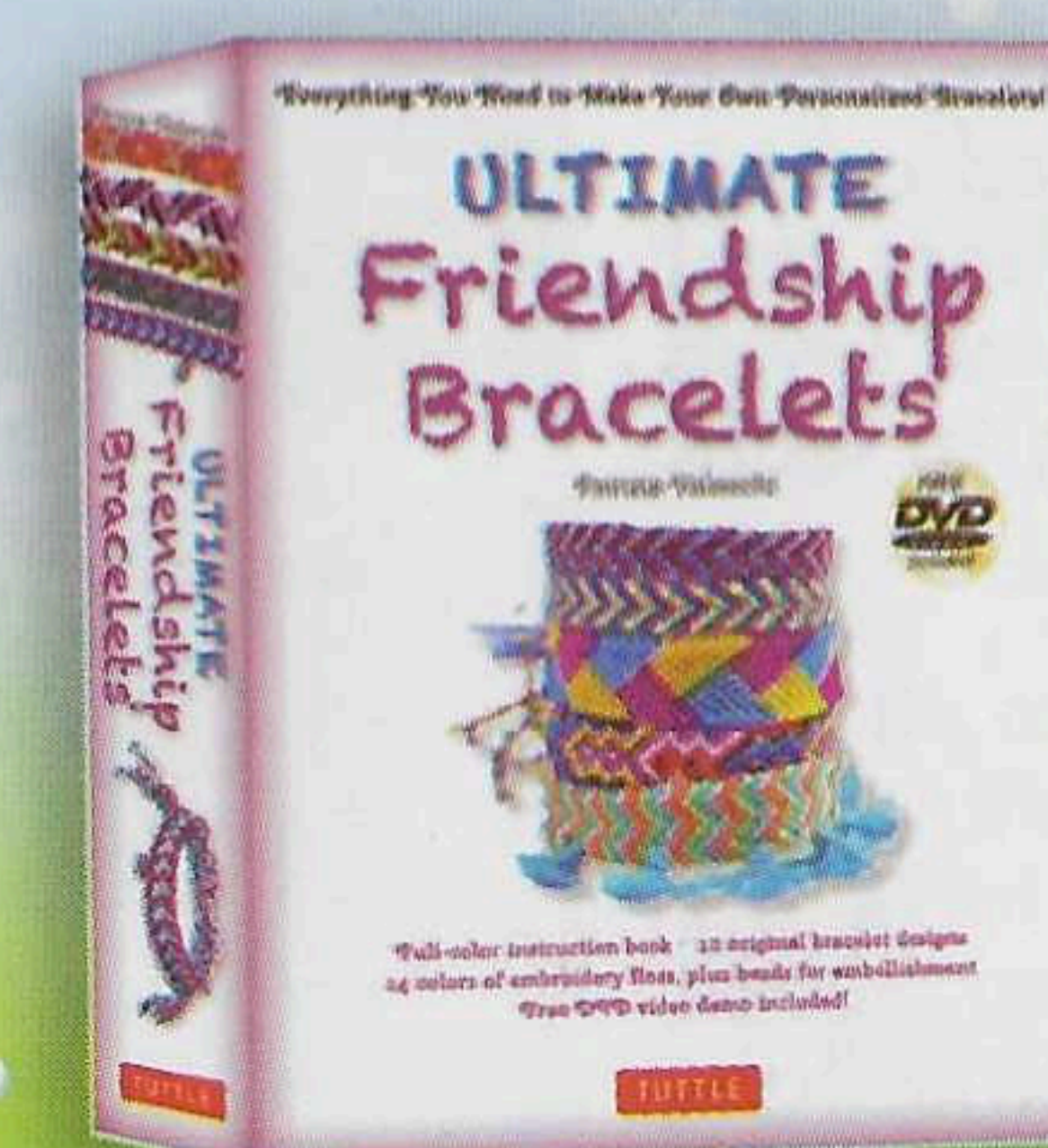
ISBN: 978 0 8048 4456 7



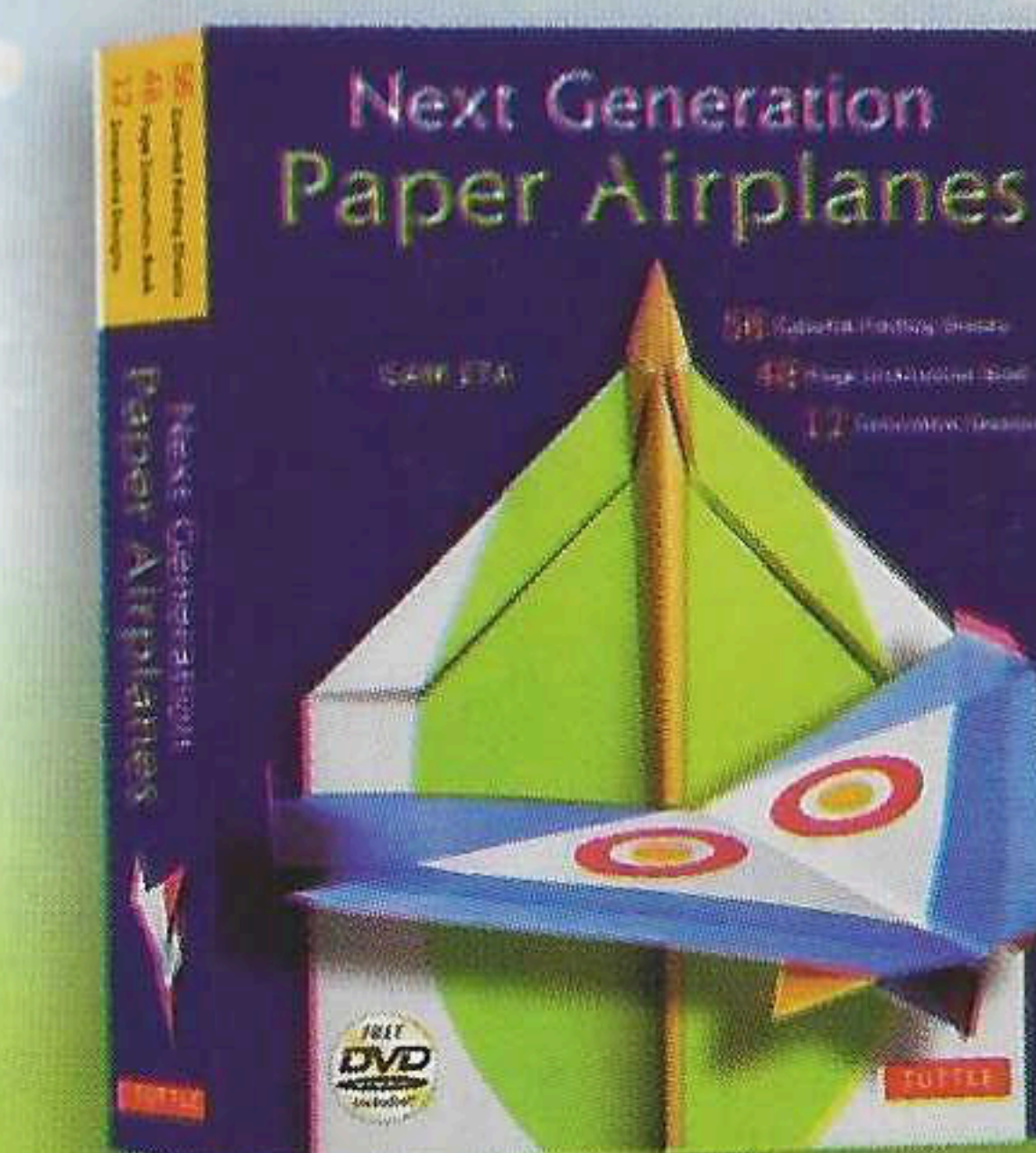
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ISBN: 978 4 8053 1363 3



ISBN: 978 0 8048 4616 5



ISBN: 978 0 8048 4609 7

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\* Visit [www.tuttlepublishing.com](http://www.tuttlepublishing.com) to see our full range of products.





Model: Jillian Rose  
Original Concept of MCS

Designer|MUA: Jolleen Gabriel(MCS)  
Styling|Assists|Hair: Mae Ngo(MCS)  
Photographer|Retoucher: Romeo Encisa Jr(MCS)

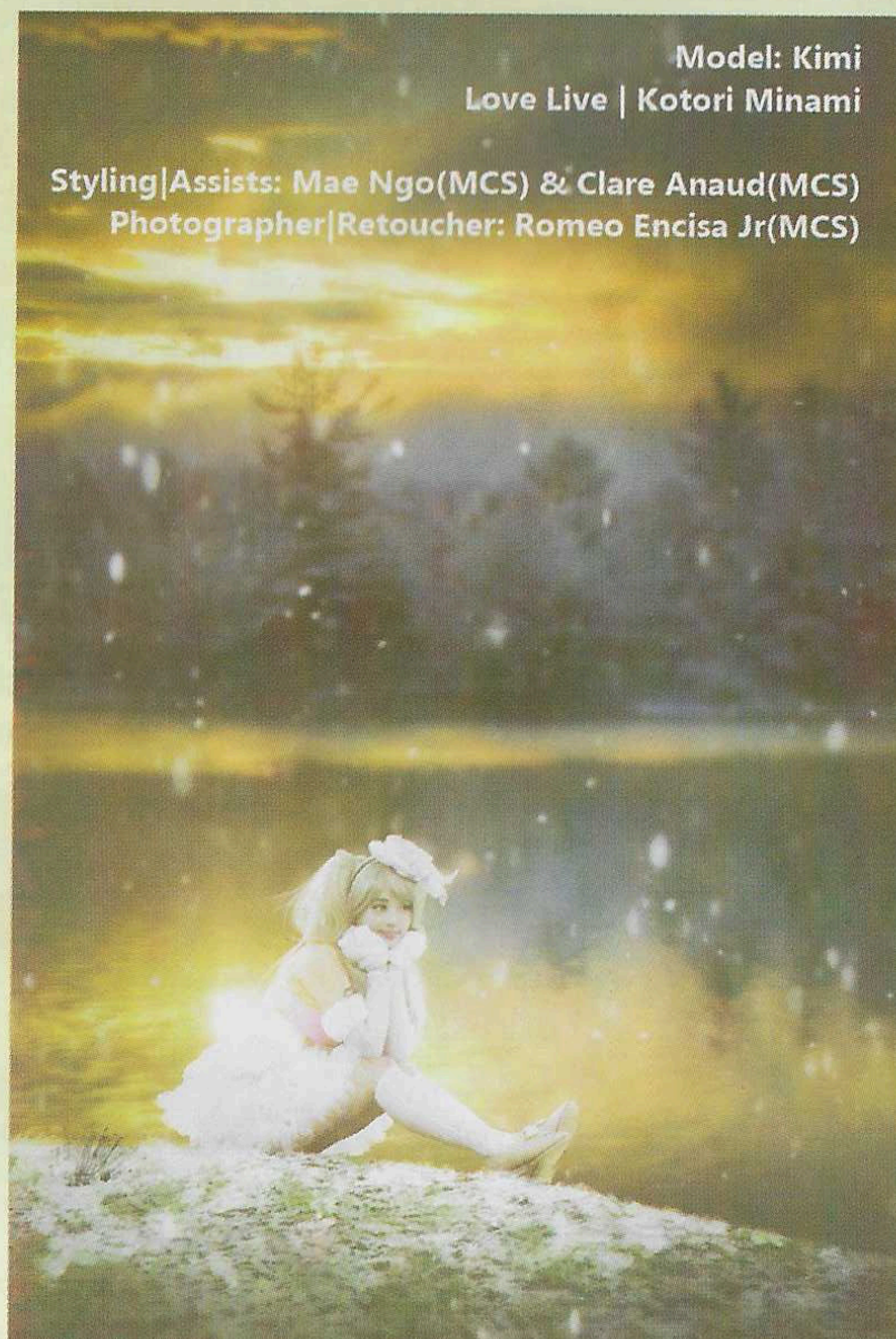
If *creativity is intelligence having fun*, then the being with the people of Moonstruck Creatives must be enjoyable.

Romeo Encisa Jr. is a professional photographer and has been around the cosplay scene as early as 2003. When he first got his Nikon in 2010, he started his journey as a digital photographer.

After graduating computer science, it wasn't too long for him to start learning about photography and graphic arts. While he still haven't locked on his style, we think that photographers that are more than welcome to try new (even old) styles are the most exciting to work with.

Without a doubt a senpai to all new photographers, Romeo is telling all hobbyists to GO FOR IT and to have the passion. As a professional, learn about the camera. Work with the natural light before other light sources and listen to friends' dependable critiques.

By the end of 2014, he founded Moonstruck Creatives.



Model: Kimi  
Love Live | Kotori Minami

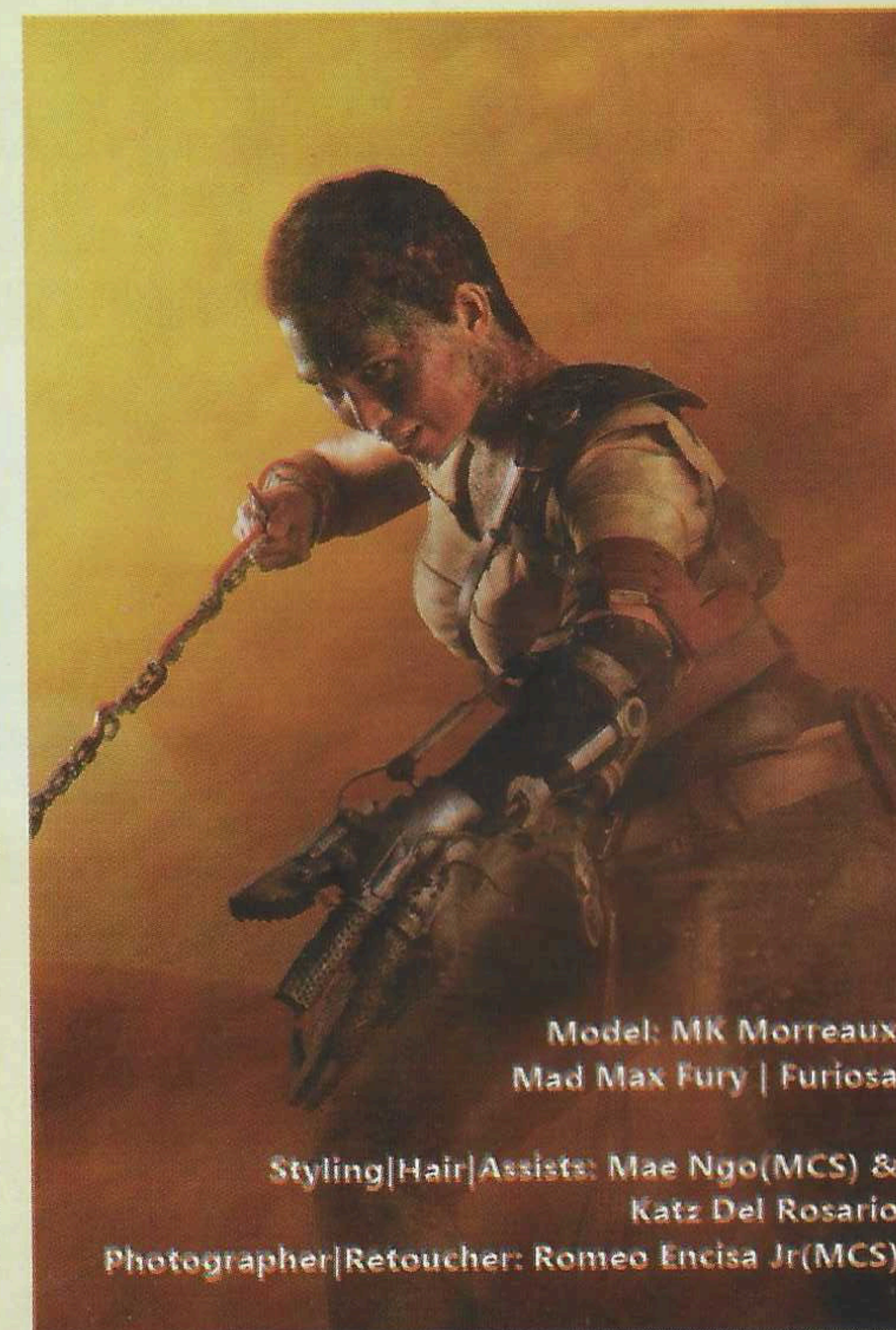
Styling|Assists: Mae Ngo(MCS) & Clare Anaud(MCS)  
Photographer|Retoucher: Romeo Encisa Jr(MCS)

Founder and Creative Director, Romeo Encisa Jr. thought of starting a photography team that takes on weddings, fashion, cosplay and commercial projects with international standards and diversity. A year after, they are still in the business of thinking out of the box.

Back in 2015, they have worked hard to work on Fantasy Quest 4 and their initial portfolio (with Mae and Jolleen) and other conceptual shoots. All so that this year, 2016, they would be able to get clients they can work their magic on.

Romeo tells Otaku Asia that "Moonstruck" for them means *crazy passion*. Their members are fun, passionate and imaginative. He works us around their motto: Creative Passionate Diverse

**Creative**  
Photographers now not only need a keen eye but also a keen mind. Before a project, they brainstorm, sketch and plan.



Model: MK Morreaux  
Mad Max Fury | Furiosa

Styling|Hair|Assists: Mae Ngo(MCS) & Katz Del Rosario  
Photographer|Retoucher: Romeo Encisa Jr(MCS)



Model: Zofie  
Love Live | Nico Yazawa

Styling|Assists: Mae Ngo(MCS) & Clare Anaud(MCS)  
Photographer|Retoucher: Romeo Encisa Jr(MCS)



### Passionate

Despite coming from different backgrounds, workplace (even countries) the fourteen members of Moonstruck Creatives have one thing in common: they are passionate about something. Be it crafting, cosplay, make-up, fashion, photography, videography, etc. Being able to believe and work strongly about one thing is commendable even more so when a group of people are doing it together.

### Diverse

Thinking out of the box is common for these people. They challenge their subject and they want to try everything they can to find the best look for their shoot or project.

If you are looking to be a member of their team, make sure that you will be able to stand by this motto and live up to it's traits. While it isn't their standard, they welcome people who are talented, creative and smart. There should be something that you can contribute to the team rather than be their student. Romeo brought up Steve Jobs' quote that goes,

It doesn't make sense to hire smart people and tell them what to do; we hire smart people so they can tell us what to do

And we could not agree more. Looking at Romeo's work and Moonstruck Creatives we see that they are a team of hard working individuals thining together to create rather than simply taking pictures, they *create*. And we could not wait to see more of their works!

### Moonstruck Creatives (MCS) Team

Romeo Encisa Jr  
Creative Director | Project Manager

Mae Lanie Ngo  
Creatives | Stylist

Jolleen Gabriel  
Creatives | Designer

Jillian Rose Imbat  
Executive Editor

Luke Caayao  
HR | PR | Investor

Clare Anaud  
Content Editor

Jannah Alecsandria Dela Rosa  
Content Editor

Natalie Miranda  
Creatives

Mark Anthony Agbayani  
Photographer

Christian Zhan  
Videographer

Ady Cooper  
Graphic Artist | Retoucher

Alexandra Chan  
Graphic Artist | Illustrator



Join the biggest one-day League of Legends event  
in the Philippines on July 23, 2016 at the World Trade Center



Filled with live eSports action, crafty cosplays from local summoners  
and tons of on-site and stage events you wouldn't want to miss!



Tickets are now available at the Garena PH office  
12/F, Fort Legend Towers, 3rd Ave. cor 31st St., BGC, Taguig City

**PREMIUM: PHP 1,200.00**  
**DELUXE: PHP 600.00**  
**REGULAR: PHP 300.00**

For more info, go to [lol.ph/rampage2016](http://lol.ph/rampage2016)





# COSPLAY

Cosplayer: Bryan Rozenkrausse  
Character Name: Shokudaikiri Mitsutada  
Game: Touken Ranbu  
Photographer: Charlie Yap/Photo Hand Works



B I S H O U N E N   S O C I E T Y  
美少年ソサイエティー

## Be Inspired.

Cosplaying here in the Philippines has become popular and known among people. One proof of that is that we have more than 10 events happening in a year; there are also circumstances where 2-3 events were held on the same day. Among the cosplayers that we see during the event, we wished and hoped that our favorite characters will be cosplayed by one of them.

If we will observe closely, we could see that most known cosplayers here in the Philippines are females. There are also known males but they don't have that much exposure compared to female cosplayers which is why a cosplay group was made for males named "Bishounen Society".

Cosplayer: Aldrich Obsuna  
Character Name: Sinbad  
Series: Magi Labyrinth of Magic  
Photographer: Eric DC/ Eyestrain Photoworks



Cosplayer: Chun WX  
Character Name: akashi Kuniyuki  
Game: Touken Ranbu  
Photographer: Alphard Penetrante/  
Snapshot Fantasy



Bishounen Society aims to showcase active male cosplayers which can serve as an inspiration to other male cosplayers for them to step up and improve on their cosplays.

The group was established during a photoshoot last September 2015. The name "Bishounen Society" was chosen by the members so that it is linked to a male perspective. The name "Bishounen" refers to pretty boy or beautiful boy, and the term of "Society" is used to distinguish them all as a single group.

As of now, no new members will be accepted into the group. Their wish is to maintain the current member lineup due to the difficulty of handling a group with a large amount of members. However, they are more than comfortable with featuring non-members of the group who possess the "bishi/Bishounen" factor and shows improvement in their cosplays.



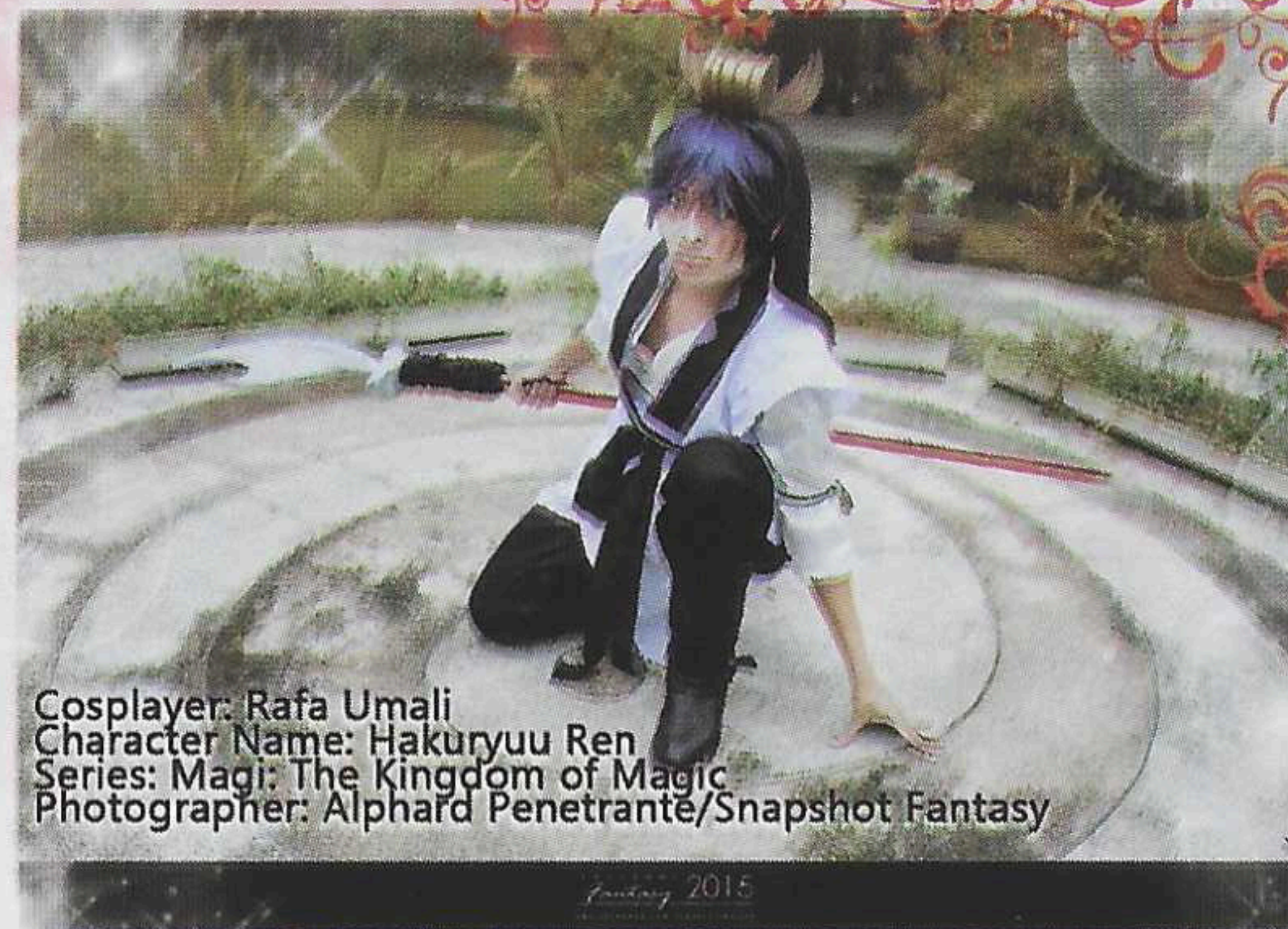
Cosplayer: Ryuu Knives  
Character Name: Slaine Troyard  
Series: Aldnoah Zero  
Photographer: Kei Villanueva / Visual Artiller Keiaveunalliv



A male individual who possess the right and proper attitude, motivation to improve on their cosplays and cosplays bishie characters are the qualifications in being a member of the group. As we can see in the photos, they are really great in cosplaying; make-up, costume and prop details, wig styling and facial expression.

In Bishounen Society, they do not force members to cosplay a specific character but, they will suggest a character for them to cosplay whenever there is a group cosplay. They respect each other's fandom and decision when it comes into cosplaying a character.

Aside from their Touken Ranbu photoshoot, they will be releasing more bishie~projects in the future so stay tuned at their Facebook page: [facebook.com/BishounenSociety](https://www.facebook.com/BishounenSociety)



Cosplayer: Rafa Umali  
Character Name: Hakuryuu Ren  
Series: Magi: The Kingdom of Magic  
Photographer: Alphard Penetrante/Snapshot Fantasy



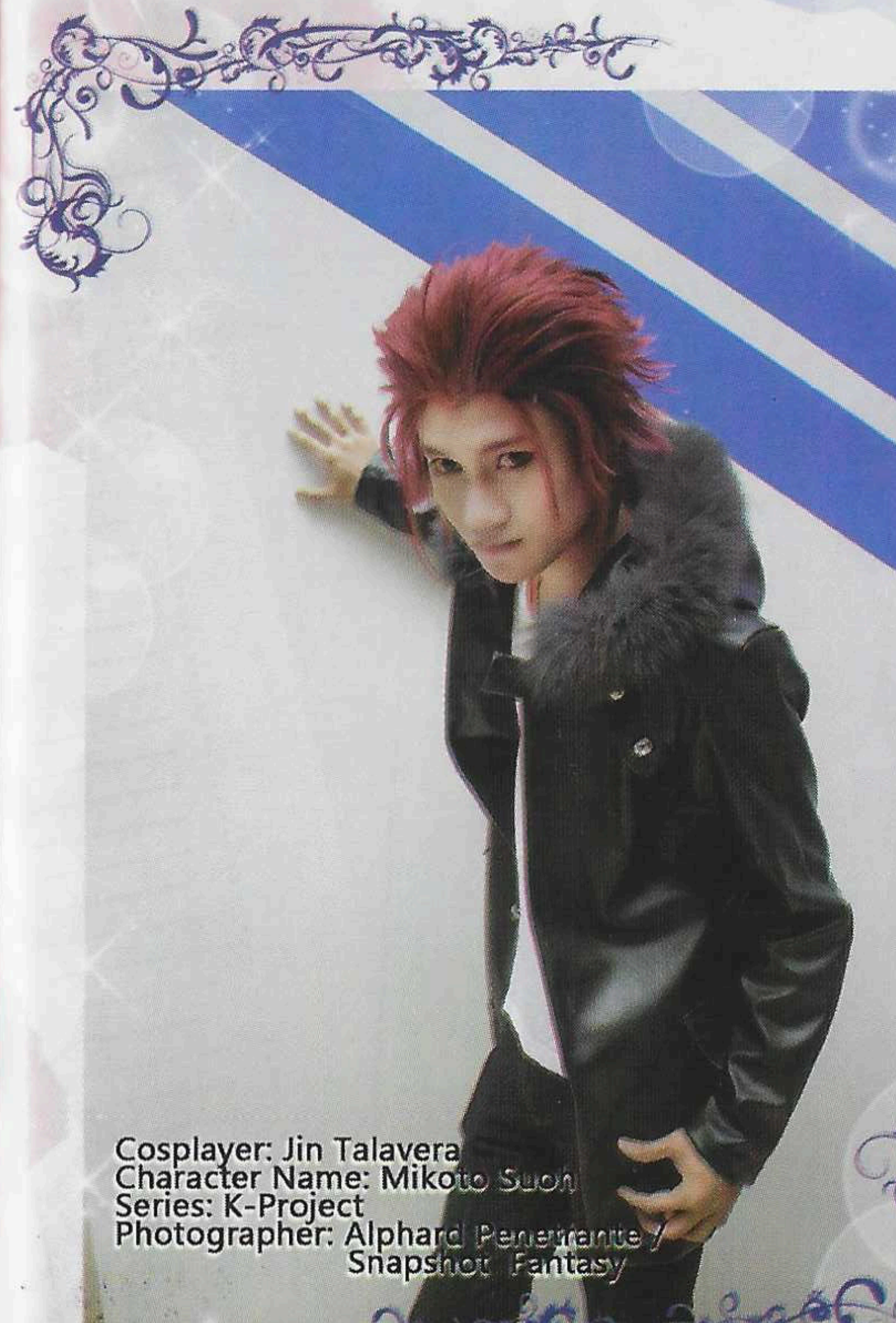
Cosplayer: Saix Nolasco  
Character Name: Raven  
Series: Elsword  
Photographer: Johann Lim/Imagoviz Photography



Cosplayer: Cruz Emmanuel  
Character Name: Mikazuki Munechika  
Game: Touken Ranbu  
Photographer: Charlie Yap/Photo Hand Works



Cosplayer: Jeff Ocray  
Character Name: Hotarumaru  
Game: Touken Ranbu  
Photographer: Charlie Yap/Photo Hand Works



Cosplayer: Jin Talavera  
Character Name: Mikoto Suoh  
Series: K-Project  
Photographer: Alphard Penetrante/Snapshot Fantasy

### Here are the current members of Bishounen Society:

Kazu Tobe  
Aram Kazama  
Chun WX  
Aldrich Obsuna  
Ralz Allen  
Rai Tsukiyama  
Kaito Bella  
Gerald Angelo Avendaño  
Cruz Emmanuel  
Jeff Ocray  
Kent Capistrano  
Jin Talavera  
Sage Tapaes  
Rafa Umali  
Saix Nolasco  
Blare Sengco  
KARLO  
Bryan Rozenkrausse  
Kaiiser Makubex  
Ryu Knives  
Lim Garcia



# The OA STUDENT PLANNER



Released with the 31'st issue of Otaku Asia Magazine, the OA Student Planner was made for you, Otafan!

33 pages of colorful pages for you to schedule your every month right.

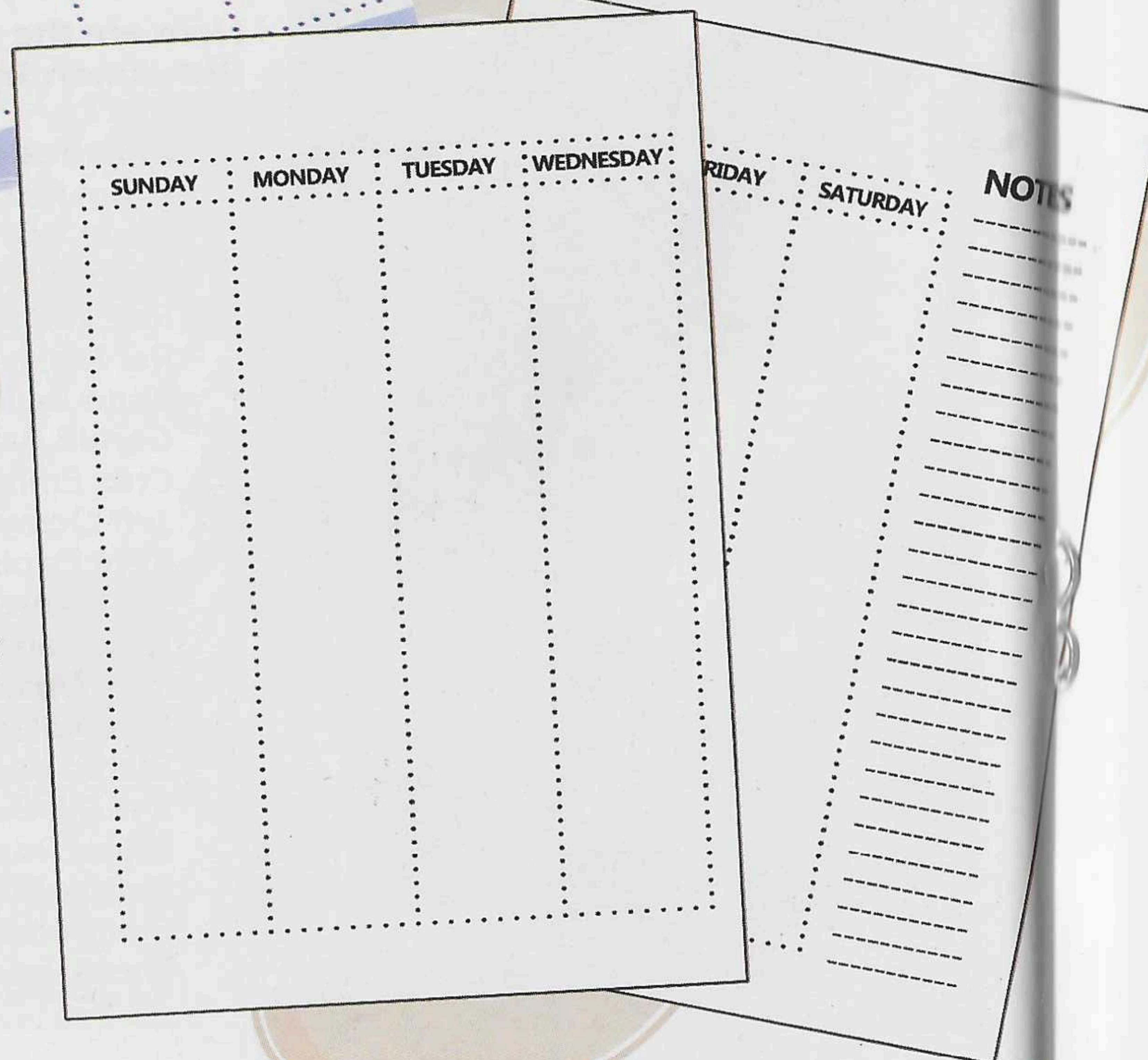
Not forgetting the Philippine Holidays and Events (plus O-kun Fiesta 2).

Plus Four BLANK WEEKLY PLANNER

Write here you class schedules, anime schedules or anything you can think of!

We would like to thank all the Otafans for your support to get this project done. We would not have done this without you.

Thank you PSICOM Publishing Inc.



The cover is drawn by Xander Ramos, Otaku Asia's graphic artist and a member of Pixitato Artworks our artist group partner during O-kun Fiesta 2.

Ochibi-sama was his mascot entry winner when we held our mascot making contest last 2013 and Sochii-kun was Chelsea Dela Merced's winning entry. These siblings are our official mascots while O-kun our official icon.

We hope that you use this planner all school year and share pictures of it through our social media accounts:

FB: [fb.com/otakuasiaanimemagazine](https://www.facebook.com/otakuasiaanimemagazine)  
INSTAGRAM: [instagram.com/OTAKUASIA/](https://www.instagram.com/OTAKUASIA/)  
TWITTER: [twitter.com/RealOtakuAsia](https://twitter.com/RealOtakuAsia)

Good luck and stay in school!







# ART OF OTAKU

by kahlua

Nendoroid Sakura Miku: Bloomed in Japan  
Sony A6300 and Sony 50mm f/1.8 OSS  
April 2016

HELLO, HELLO KIXKILLRADIO

Remarkable is the person who knows his hobby and turns it into a healthy passion. But to be able to share that passion to others, that is something even more impressive.

Initially collecting anime figurines in 2010, Sheryl "Sheng" Gonzales soon after decided to do figure photography to express her love for her collection uniquely and show it to other people. She is more popularly known as Kixkillradio and is currently working with some of the biggest figure companies in Japan namely Kotobukiya and Good Smile Company. At present, she has partnered with Sony, one of the most popular camera brands around the world, as the Sony Philippines Brand Ambassador.

Nendoroids Sakura Kinomoto and Tomoyo at the beach!  
March 2016



Remarkable is the person who knows his hobby and turns it into a healthy passion. But to be able to share that passion to others, that is something even more impressive.

In 2010, Sheng was trying to sign up for a toy community/forum with 'killradio' as her name but the name was already taken, so she added her nickname in iMRC which is 'kix'. Now with 'kixkillradio', she was finally able to register and used that nickname since then.

Kixkillradio is known for her creative and innovative way of giving life to her favorite Nendoroids by Good Smile Company, Cu-poche by Kotobukiya, and several other figures. She even creates her own miniature backgrounds and diorama for her photography to make it become more realistic and lively.

It was in her early years of figure photography when she thought of making her work more unique and different from others. She then decided to base her photos on certain anime scenes or settings and took another step up by making detailed dioramas for it.



OTP Nendoroid Sayaka Miki and Kyouko Sakura in the rain  
July 2015  
Sony A7 Mark II

Depending on the story she would like to create, it takes her two to seven days to set up her diorama, while it takes up to two to three hours or more for the photoshoot of her subjects.

True enough, her final products lets you see your favorite characters as if they're real and in action. But it is not that easy of a process. She started to learn it through Google and Youtube tutorials, and as she said, it is a trial and error thing. Until now, she makes mistakes, learns from it, and improves through these.



Maxfactory figma EX019 Kaga  
July 2014



Every achiever must have started simple. Likewise, Sheng started figure photography using only her mobile phone in 2010. Only after did she save up to buy a DSLR camera in 2011 and she became more active in figure photography since then. She owns a Sony A6000, Sony A6300 with 50mm f1.8 OSS lens which is really great for figure photography, and Sony A7MII that she used last year. Her favorite is the Sony A6300 as it's small, light, super sharp and has fast auto focus.

Despite having done so much for figure photography, for Sheng it is not yet her profession but still a hobby: something that she truly enjoys doing. She even gets free figures from manufacturers as the perks of her work! Admit it, it is every figure collector's dream, and naturally it is nothing different for her.



Nendoroid Mako relax at the beach!  
(using Nendoroid More: Summer Body)  
March 2016

Figma Snow Miku 2016  
Sony A6000 / E 50mm F1.8 OSS  
February 2016

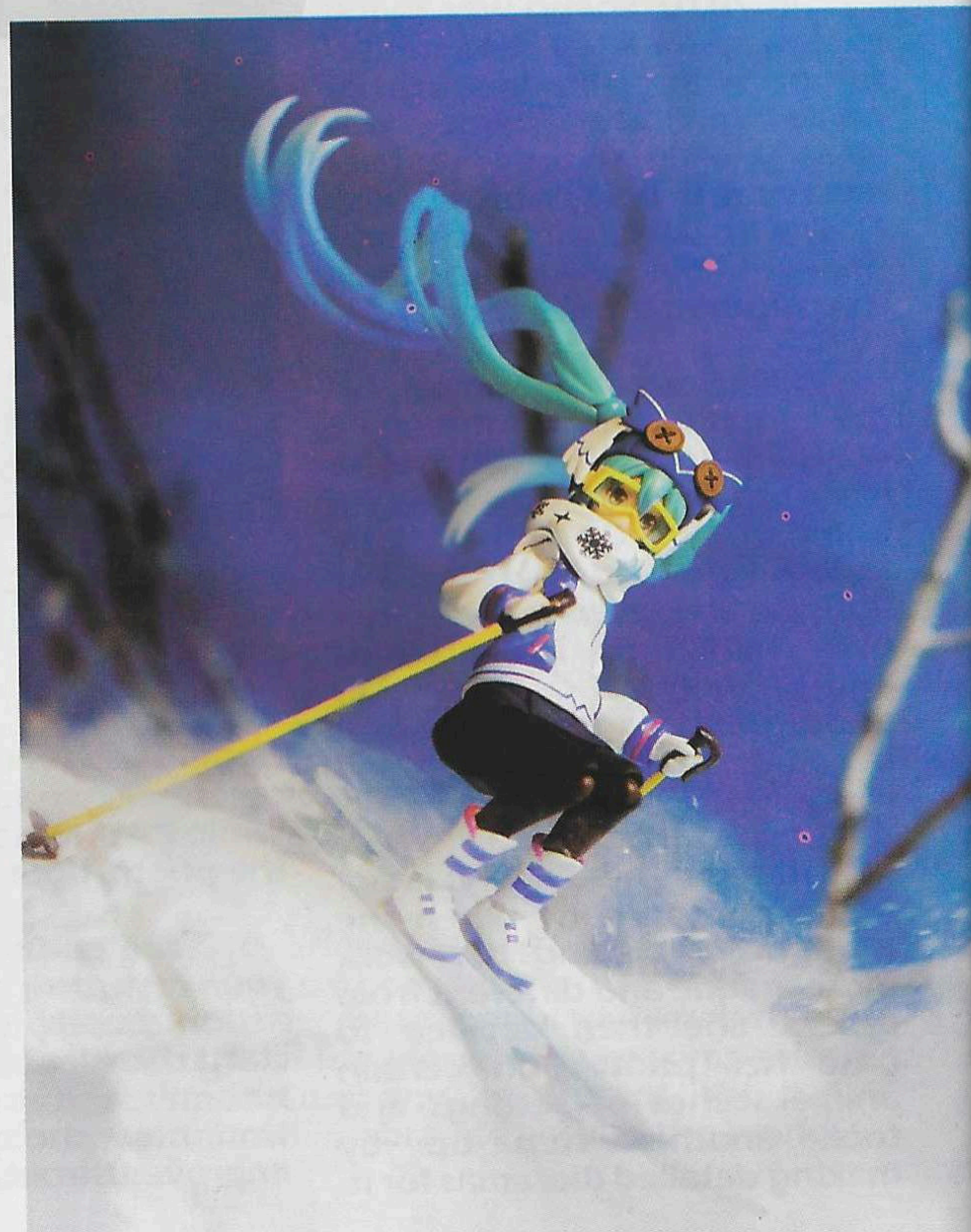


Figure photography has opened a lot of doors for Sheng in her more than five years of practice. Her works have been widely featured in websites locally and internationally, and also in television and magazines. In 2014 hence, she was able to publish her own photobook "Kixkillradio: What my toys are up to Figure Photography Vol 1". This photobook was supposed to be just a personal one; she only thought it would be great for her favorite shots to be printed. But when she posted the book in her page, there was an overwhelming request of fans who are willing to pay for the book. She only made limited copies for volume 1, but luckily for her fans out there, Volume 2 is to be released this May or June 2016.

As another way of sharing her love of figure photography, Kixkillradio has also opened her own online store where she sells several handmade props (some of which are made-to-order!) for miniature dioramas that will fit your figurines for art photography. Printable nendoroids and of course her first volume of photobook are also available in the store, all for affordable prices.



Nendoroid Umaru  
November 2015

Sheng Gonzales

Visit her  
store website  
<http://kixkillradio.storenvy.com/>  
for more details!

Are you  
interested in doing  
figure photography  
yourself? Kixkillradio  
also offers some free  
tutorial and tips on her  
website. Visit  
<https://kixkillradio.com/>  
and start shooting your  
favorite figurines now!







# ART OF OTAKU

Hello Otafans!

We are Pixitato Artist, compose of 6 Members. We are a small Art Circle founded on 2015, focusing on making Anime Merchandise like Posters, Pins and Keychains that we sell on Anime Conventions here on the Philippines. So we are really grateful that we are being featured on Otaku Asia Magazine, and invited to be part of O-kun Fiesta 2!

## nekosnei

**Sheila Mae Villanueva**  
Anime/Cartoon lover | A pro at procrastinating | Secretly likes puns | Nocturnal | Introvert

Likes: Novels/Fanfics, Cute animals, Chocolate, Memes, Air conditioning, Videogames, Internet

Dislikes: Large crowds, Being overcome by feels, Anxiety, Art blocks, Lagging, Internet

-My art style is a mixture of Moe-cartoon styled art. I'm currently trying to improve this style and its consistency.



## Vhenyfire

**Vhenus Razon**  
Bday: Oct. 16 1998  
Gender: Female

Likes: Ice Cream, bread and pastries. Fantasy-action-romance genre stories

Dislikes: Unfair, liars, boastful people

Hobbies: Singing, playing games, napping

Motto: Practice makes perfect



## kurumik@

Wesley Molina



Bio: My name is kuru and I really love drawing huhuhu I'm currently 14 yrs old and just at the beginning of my art career

Likes: Sleep, Food, Space, Anime, The sound of the rain, nature,

Dislikes: Exams, Insects, Messy things

Inspiration: Amazing scenery or music is what inspires me sometimes! My absolute favorite artist would be Rosuuri, another person who inspires me and my art.

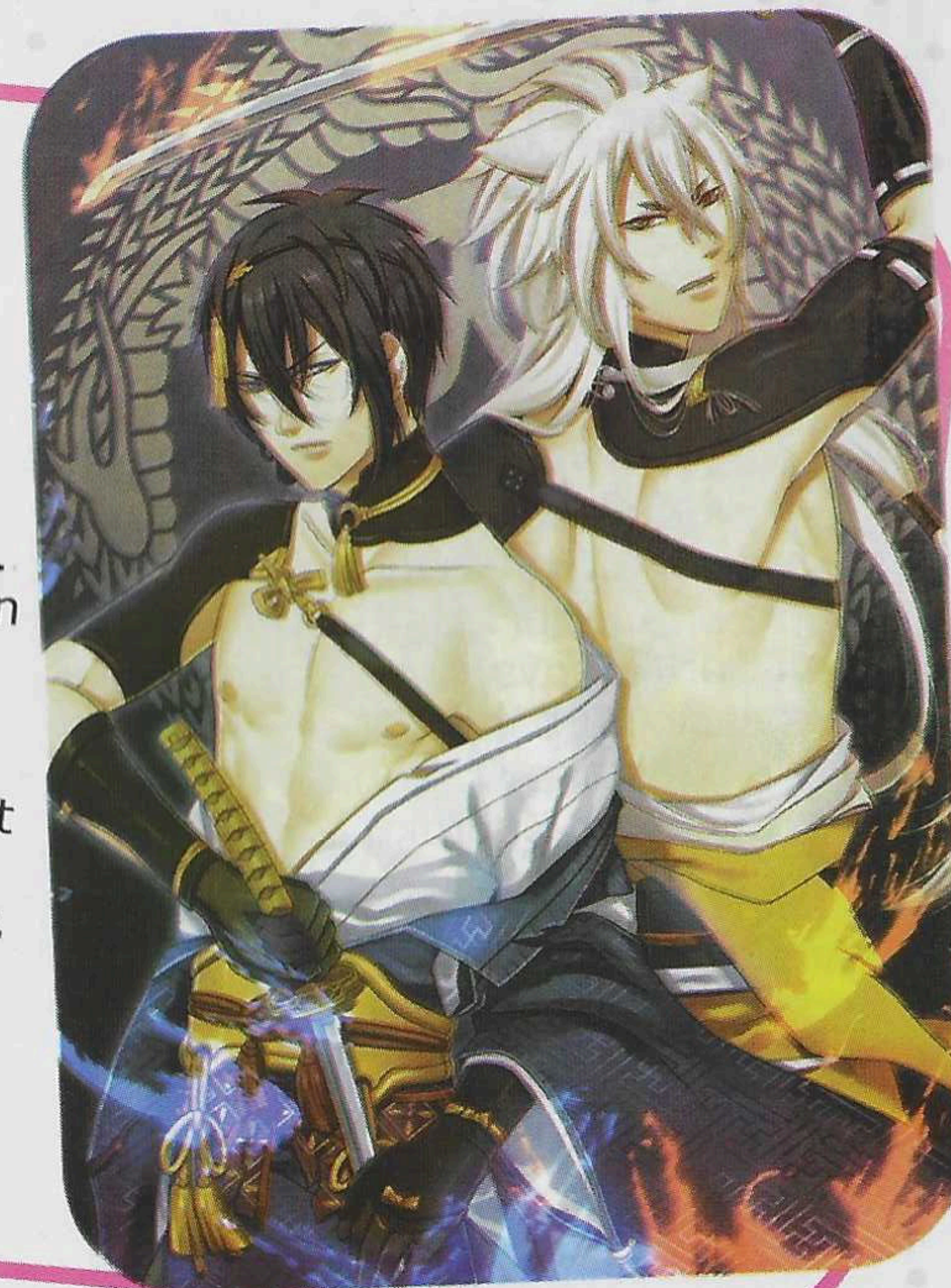
## batuSawa

Karla

Describe yourself and your art: I've been drawing since childhood. It used to be just a hobby and pastime. Whenever I have a new favorite cartoon or anime, I would immediately gather references and draw them.

I believe there's nothing wrong with that because we all learn from imitating at first, but will find our own along the way.

Inspirations: Kazuki Yone, Sata, Sorachi-sensei, Yuu Watase, Seeing beautiful art from other people





# nerineriipyon/nerii

Roselle Badiang



Likes: RJDC Caramel Miraculous Ladybug , Buying stationary goodies, collecting nendos and figmas , watching Disney cartoons  
Dislikes: skirts and dress (・^・) procrastinating, weaboo ( ; \_ \_ ) myself (jk)

i think i'm the one who created this Artist group haha i don't know, i just want to have an amazing artist friend and my senpais and pro artist become our members.

I practice and practice to reach what i am today. There's, a lot of artist who inspired me , and they are my friends now. I study how they color and shade their artworks until one day i create my own style.

# ney\_xander/ney-xander

Xander Ramos

Likes: Love Live, Hamburger, Coffee, Games

Dislike: Cockroach, Deadlines

Self intro:

Hi Otafans, it's me Xander again, thank you for supporting Otaku Asia! I'm a neet xD I don't go outside that much, unless there's a convention hehe. About my Art, I really like to draw girls MOE Style and Chibi also (Okun Tales). It's not like I can't draw boys, it just I don't found it entertaining haha xD

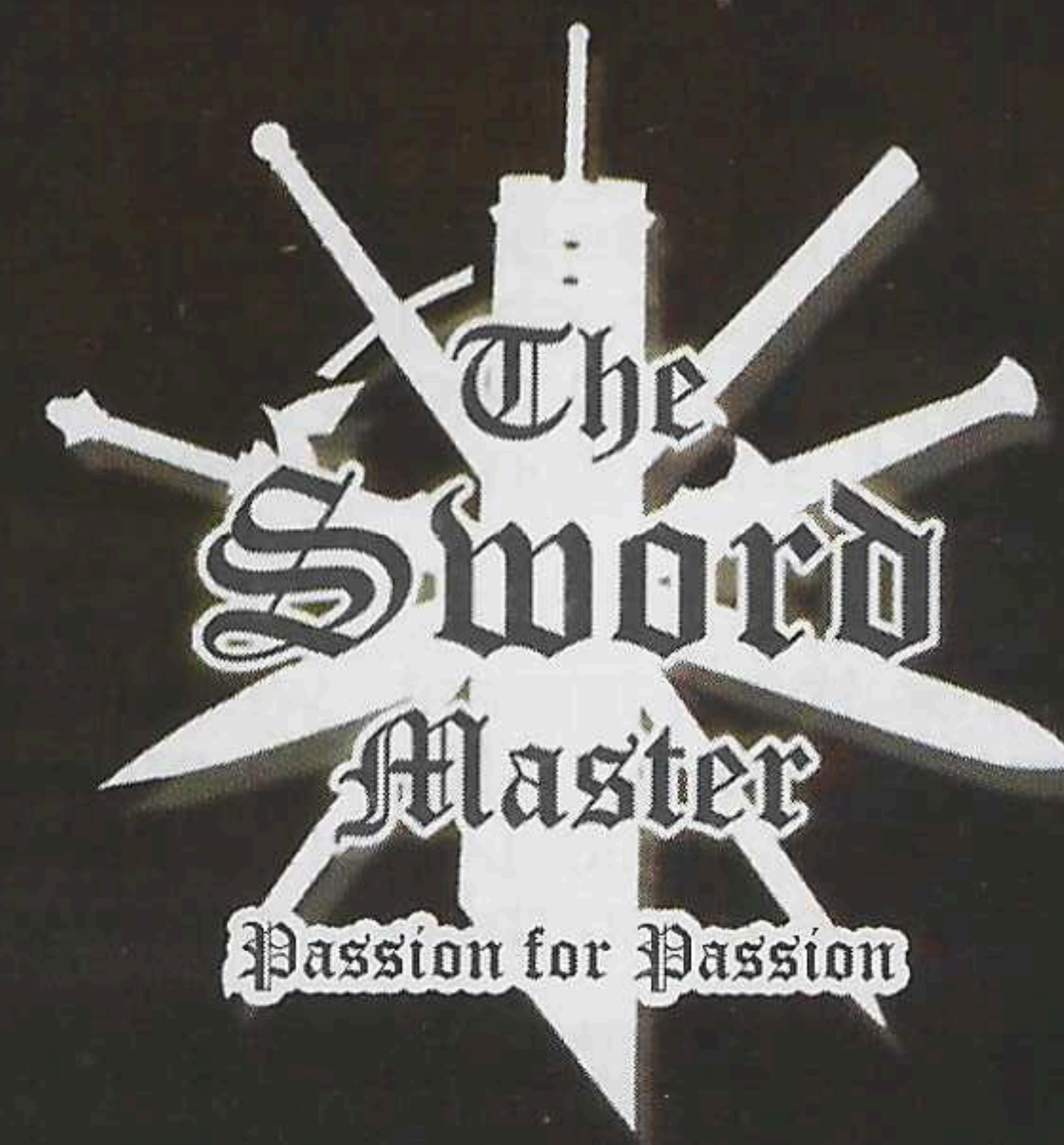
My biggest inspiration on my drawing style is Nardack and Kantoku.



**Otaku Asia** had the honor to work with these wonderful artists for O-kun Fiesta 2 and it was very inspiring that these young individuals work for their hobbies to make it into their passion and hopefully into a living.

**Don't give up on your dreams! The ability to draw wasn't given to them by fairies it was through hard work and passion and it can be done!! Ganbatte!**

where  
props  
look like  
real  
weapons



Contact Person: Miko Garcia Twitter: /TheSw0rdMaster  
Facebook: /TheSwordMasters Contact # v0935 6655 6760





# 学びます

Hajimemashite. Watashi wa  
Diamante Kento desu.

I am meeting you for the first time.  
I am Kent Diamante.

This is our new section,  
MANABIMASU or Learn. Our title is in  
Hiragana because I feel like we should  
learn Japanese by spelling it out  
phonetically (Katakana is for borrowed  
foreign words). Otaku Asia will be  
teaching Nihongo in this section by me  
and Unmei Nihongo Center teachers.  
While I'm not currently studying  
anymore, I do have beginner's  
knowledge from online modules. If you  
noticed, we also have a different font  
than the usual Otaku Asia Eras. We are  
using Meiro so we could use Kanji.

We do hope to start attending  
classes over at Unmei (うんめい)!

I recommend that you have a  
Hiragana chart and start practicing. Make  
sure you have a chart that can teach you  
the proper order of strokes.

For our first lesson, we will learn the  
following:

1. Greetings
2. Self introduction
3. Thank you
4. Sorry

Nihongo has politeness levels. There  
is formal speech for older people,  
strangers and someone you don't know  
very well and informal speech to friends  
and family.

For this segment, we will be using  
formal speech. This is probably the  
safest way since I do not know where  
you will be using this knowledge.

## GREETINGS

Hello:  
kon'nichi wa (こんにちは)

Good morning (formal):  
ohayō gozaimasu (おはようございます)  
\*-masu is pronounced 'mas'

Good morning (informal):  
ohayō (お早う)

Good evening:  
konbanwa (こんばんは)

When someone greets you with any  
of the above, it is polite to greet back.  
From experience, you should also this  
with a slight bow (just the head).

Oh! We should have a lesson in types  
of bows in Japan.

## SELF INTRODUCTION

It's the first time meeting you:  
hajimemashite (はじめまして)  
\*it does not mean 'nice to meet you'  
literally but it does have the same use

-desu (です) pronounced 'des' is a  
coupla... an equating verb that links the  
subject and predicate. Pay attention in  
grammar class. Literally translated, it's '  
to be'. It is also formal speech while -da  
(だ) is informal. When these are added  
at the end of the sentence they make  
the sentence positive declarative.

I'm Kent:  
Kento desu (ケントです)  
Kent turns to Kento because it would  
be easier for Japanese to pronounce.  
Some Western names are hard to  
pronounce so please take that into  
consideration when introducing  
yourself.

yoroshiku onegaishimasu  
(よろしく願います)

Has no direct translation but it's like  
saying 'please look favorably upon me'.  
Since this is your first time meeting, you  
want the other party to look at you  
positively and saying this will do the  
trick.

## THANK YOU

Thank you (formal):  
arigatou gozaimasu  
(ありがとうございます)

Drop the gozaimasu and you get the  
informal 'thank you'.

Thanks (friendly):  
Doumo (どうも)

This is the most informal form of  
thanks. We strictly use this with close  
friends or family.

Thank you very much:  
Doumo arigatou gozaimasu  
(どうもありがとうございます)

Thank you (past tense):  
arigatou gozaimashita  
(ありがとうございました)

It is 'thank you' for something that  
has been done to you. Said to the  
teacher after a lesson to the host after a  
party.

Thank you for the trouble:  
sumimasen (すみません)

When meant as thanks, this term is  
used to acknowledge that someone did  
or has done you a favor. This is used to  
thank that persons efforts.

You're welcome:  
dōitashimashite (どういたしまして)

Informally, you can just say 'yes' as in  
hai (はい) as 'welcome' or 'no problem'

## SORRY

Sorry (formal):  
gomen nasai (ごめんなさい)

Sorry (informal):  
gomen (ごめん)

Sorry (friendly):  
gomen-ne (ごめんね)

My bad (casual):  
warui warui (悪い悪い)

Sorry/ Excuse me (casual):  
sumimasen (すみません)  
I use this when trying to excuse my  
way through a crowd or when I get a  
sudden phone call during a  
conversation.

Sorry (most formal):  
owabi (お詫び)

This was used by several  
Japanese dignitaries for post-war  
apologies. The most recent one was PM  
Shinzo Abe's 2015 war anniversary  
statement.

There are also business-like ways to  
apologize and give thanks (you might  
hear those when going in to  
establishments in Japan) but I don't  
think it would be appropriate for the first  
lesson from Manabimasu.

One extra thing, most Nihongo when  
written in romanji end in 'u' such as our  
segment, Manabumasu, the 'u' is silent  
thus pronunciation is 'manabimas'.  
Gozaimasu is 'gozaimas'.

Oh wow. I should shorten lessons for  
this one, the text is so long!! Well, this is  
a proper Nihongo lesson, big kids like  
you don't need pretty pictures and  
illustrations.... right?

Next lesson: Sentence construction.





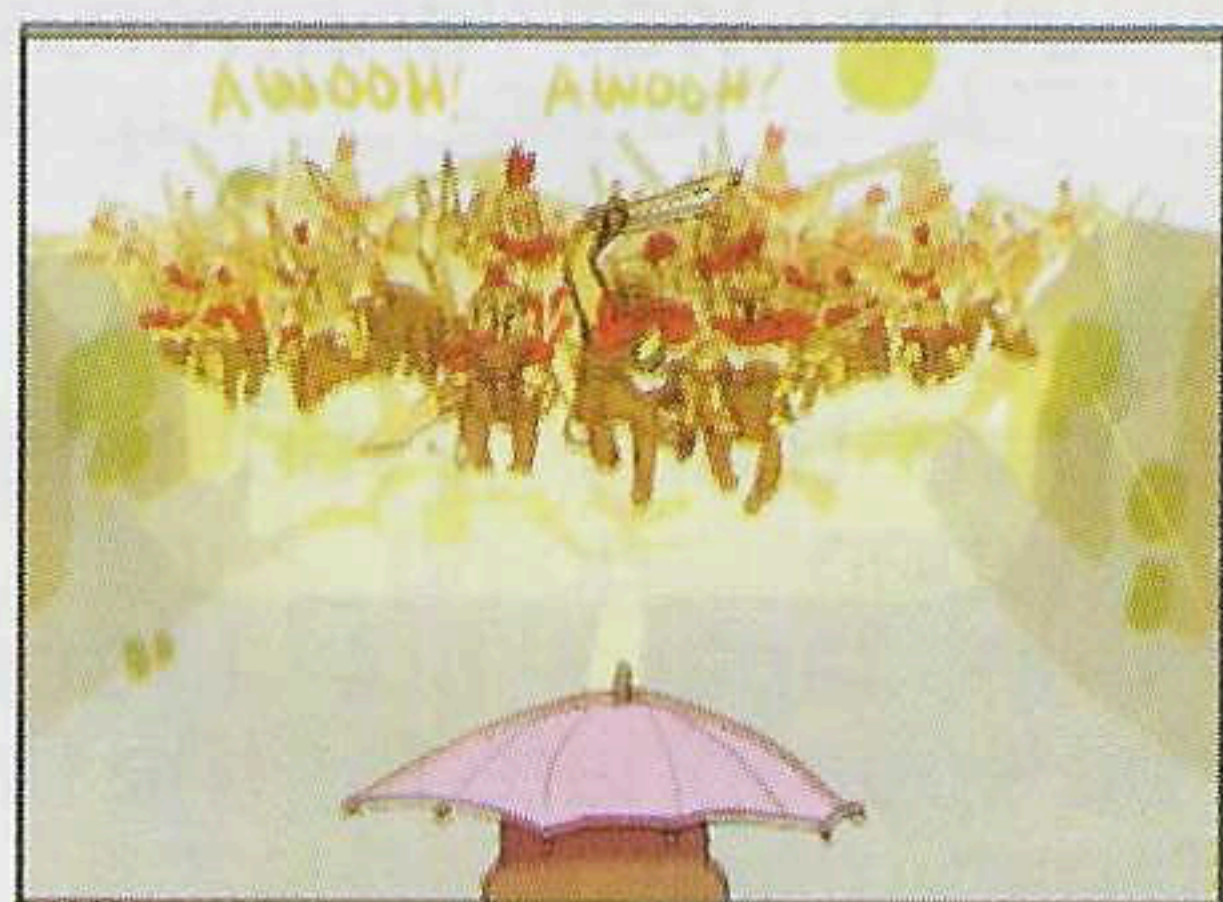
# BEB!! SI LITTLE THINGS PH MAY BAGONG POST

If you have been anywhere in Facebook, you already should have seen the comics of artist Ivyree Rosario. Her comics are about a couple doing normal couple things. She makes her comics from experience and as fellow Filipinos, we can relate so much. (e.g. Pusangala with the caption:

*Yung feeling na papalapit na yung init.*

*Magiging amoy mandirigma ka na rin pagtapos humay lord bakit ganito yung heat index nakakasira ng bait.*

FB.COM/LITTLETHINGSPH



What makes us love her comics is how cute her art style is! Big eyes and fluffy hair, they are sure to make you smile!

You can follow her comics of the FB page Little Things PH and on tapastic.com/series/Ivy-and-Reg

She has also released a few videos, animations and other creations featuring her characters. Sometimes big things come from Little Things!



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Photo by: Fritz Tentavita





Founders Alec Descallar and Joseph Ongsingco started Cosplay Medics PH with their first booth on October 2015. They are a non-profit organization dedicated to repairing costumes and helping out fellow cosplayers during cosplay events in Metro Manila.

While they cannot promise to be present in every event, they do promise good and free service on the events they go to.

If anyone is experiencing cosplay malfunction, they are available in their booth and as roaming medics.

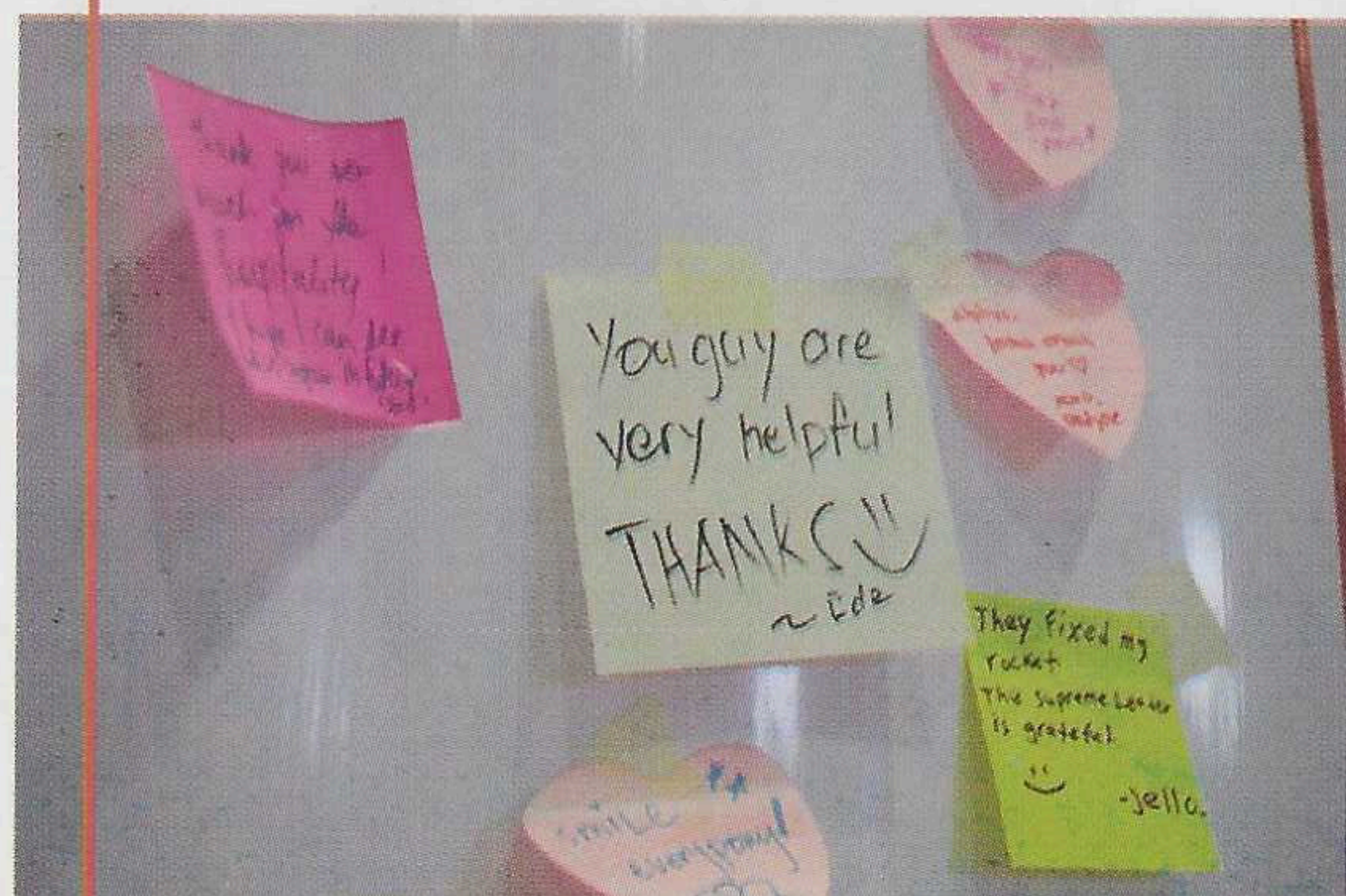
Repairs, fixes and retouches are all free. However, since they will be using quality products, their wig styling and make up service\* are available for a fee that depends on the difficulty. Part of the payment will go to fund their future events, supplies and more.

\*for hygienic reasons, please bring your own brushes

Since their members (aka medics) are also otaku, their booth also sells merchandise, second hand items, art prints and fan merch.

When I first saw their booth, I was immediately asking for contact details because I just had to have them in our event, O-kun Fiesta and they are a joy to work with. They were very cooperative and helpful!

In one of their events that the magazine covered, they put up a shout out tarp titled "Memories" and their clients would write words of thanks on sticky notes and put it up the tarp for all to see and all I read were wonderful comments about them. Being hospitable is a Filipino trait and it was surely heart warming to see young individuals who rather than bring each other down online, are willing and selfless enough to help fellow cosplayers. May we see more of this initiative from other members of the community. Be generous and kind.

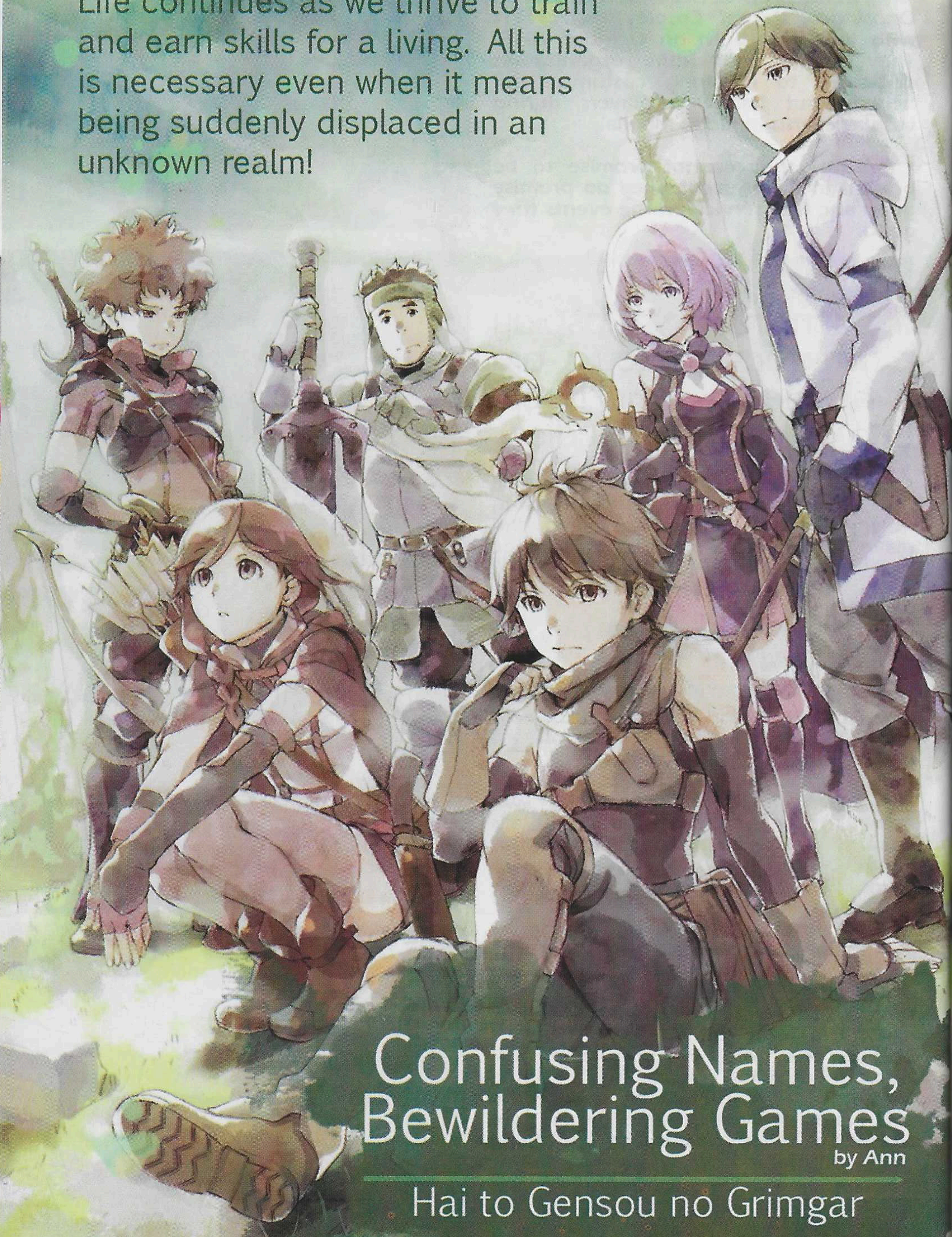


**GONE ARE THE DAYS** when we would look at a costume accident and just gulp it down to "the show must go on."

Now, the convention cosplay game in the Philippines has changed. Like NPCs ready to help, **COSPLAY MEDICS PH** are here to mend, style and dress you up. Also cosplayers and crafters themselves, these group got together and started bringing tape, glue, medical supplies and hair wax during events in hopes of helping a coser out. Eventually, they got a booth of their own and their group started growing! Now they also have make up services!



Life continues as we thrive to train and earn skills for a living. All this is necessary even when it means being suddenly displaced in an unknown realm!



## Confusing Names, Bewildering Games

by Ann

Hai to Gensou no Grimgar



In the case of **Haruhiro** and his party, waking up in a world they have never known with a memory of nothing more than their names and some words they can't even recognize has become their reality. On day one of their adventure in the town of **Ortana** in **Grimgar**, they find themselves among other people awakened inside a sort of portal and being told they are to form themselves into groups to begin training as **Volunteer Soldier** of the **Borderland Brigade**.

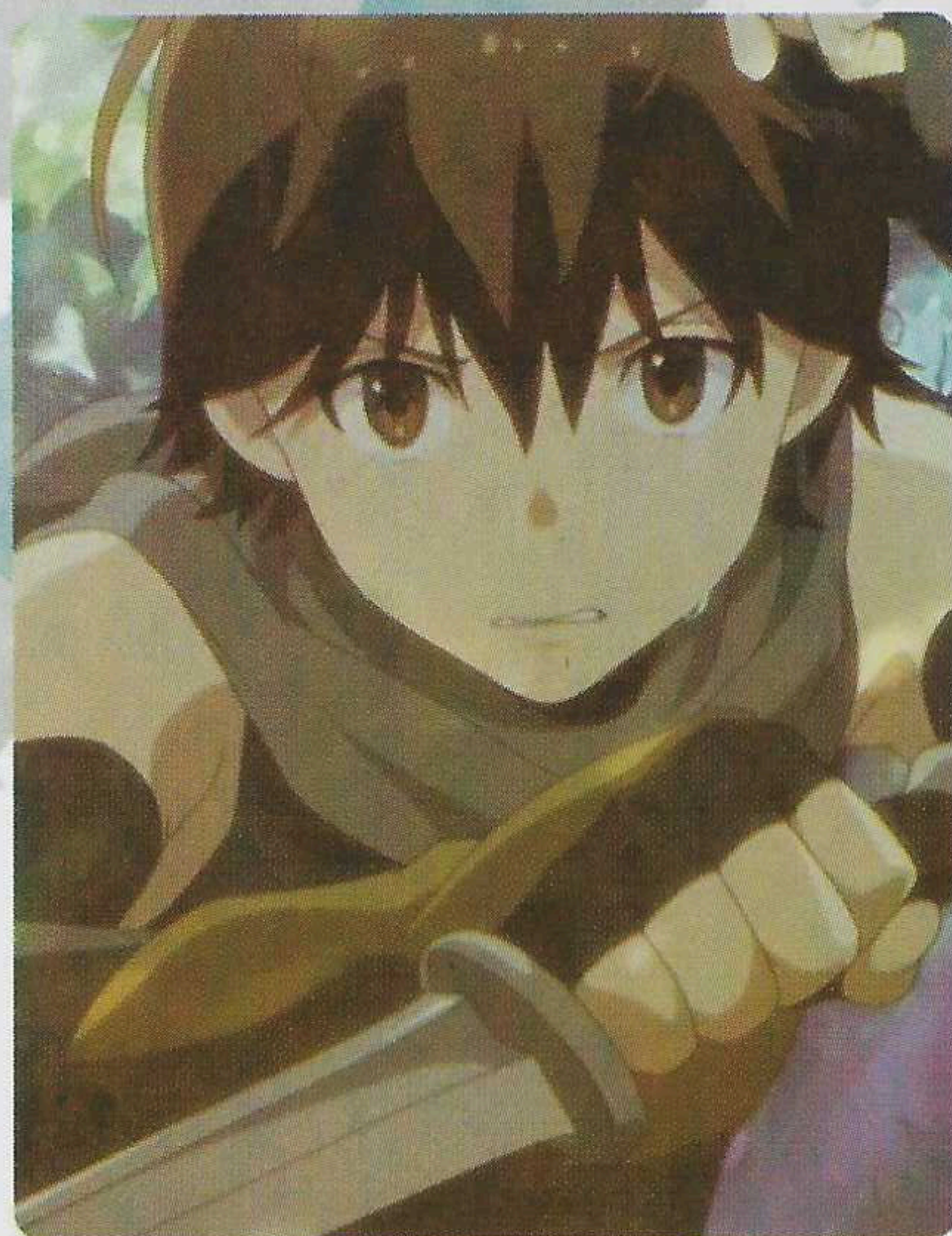
In their recruitment process, they must earn money by defeating monsters and selling the spoils to the point where they can buy a badge to be a legitimate part of the **Volunteer Soldier Squad**. With an entirely clean slate, our main players are ready to take on the challenge of living in this fantasy world and perhaps later learn some more about their past lives and what their bigger purpose is.

Based on author **Ao Jūmonji** and illustrator **Eiri Shirai**'s light novel series, this action fantasy drama is another in the long list of stories on the idea of being trapped in an MMORPG or massive multiplayer online role playing game.

From 2013 to October of last year, Overlap Bunko has been publishing it up to its sixth novel. By April, Square Enix began publishing a manga adaptation written by **Mutsumi Okubashi**. **Hai to Gensou no Grimgar** or **Grimgar of Fantasy** and **Ash** had its anime adaptation premiere this January through A-1 Pictures and licensing of Madman and Funimation. The TV series is written and directed by **Ryosuke Nakamura** with the character design made by **Mieko Hosoi**. **R.O.N.** is in charge of the music and has created the project (K)NoW\_NAME for the opening and ending theme songs including the insert songs.







## Haruhiro

voiced by Yoshimasa Hosoya

Speaking as the main narrator of the story, Haruhiro is just as confounded as the other characters that awaken as new recruits for Volunteer Soldier. He chooses to join the guild of thieves to take on that role in their party. While he does uphold his morals in opposition to Ranta, he is not a nosebleeding-completely-innocent-guy when in discussion of women and their bodies. He is just generally considerate of everyone's feelings and wants to help them out in whichever way he can. His thoughts also keep the readers coming back to the main mysteries of the plot, which is where they came from and why exactly they got to Grimgar.

## Shihoru

voiced by Haruka Terui

Seen as the timid and innocent lamb, Shihoru is the manifestation of the lack of confidence of the entire party as she does not even have enough faith in her skills as a magician. While it is distasteful to have another character with big breasts to come off as the one being the least surefooted, there might be more to her as the series continues as we see some more growth in her character as their group claims more successes.



## Ranta

voiced by Hiroyuki Yoshino

Training as the dark knight of the team, Ranta's personality comes nowhere near to the ideals of knighthood as he is a rambunctious guy who always seems to get himself into trouble. He even uses the comments of others around him to make it seem like he's great such as declaring himself the Shameless King after announcing his perverted desire to peak while the ladies are taking their bath. While he does bring some humor to the seriousness of their struggles, he sheds light to a different side of him when his team sees him badly wanting to become a better dark knight.



## Manato

voiced by Nobunaga Shimazaki

Essentially, his calm and gentle voice is very much fitting for his priest role in the group. He leads the group and takes care of their wounds in battle, but more than that, he oversees the group's needs and creates strategies for them based on their strengths to earn more spoils and come closer to being qualified Volunteer Soldiers.



## Yume

voiced by Mikako Komatsu

She is the brave hunter of the group, yet she does fail to make a good aim using her bow and arrow. She spells trouble for her group during their first hunt as she almost hits them instead of the goblin. Still, her major role would be the stronger woman to anchor Shihoru into being more positive about herself, giving her the encouragement to be more open to others.

## Moguzo

voiced by Fukushi Ochiai

While we may be familiar with the stereotypical big guy with soft heart character, Moguzo gives a deeper meaning to the phrase "gentle beast" as he functions as the warrior of the troupe. However, neither strength nor swordsmanship is included in his list of assets. Instead, he has the passion for cooking for others and carving small wooden figures in his spare time.







Hai to Gensou no Grimgar garners a mix of audience as modern characters being trapped in a game world is nothing new; however, it takes on a different point of view, seemingly taking a seat back from the urgency of accomplishing tasks.

The characters are certainly in a mess as they are in bad luck in defeating goblins, technically the weakest monster in the area. Still, their series of unfortunate events helps the viewers see behind the scenes action of heroes in the making. It's inspiring enough to know that everyone begins at rock bottom and move their way up at some point.

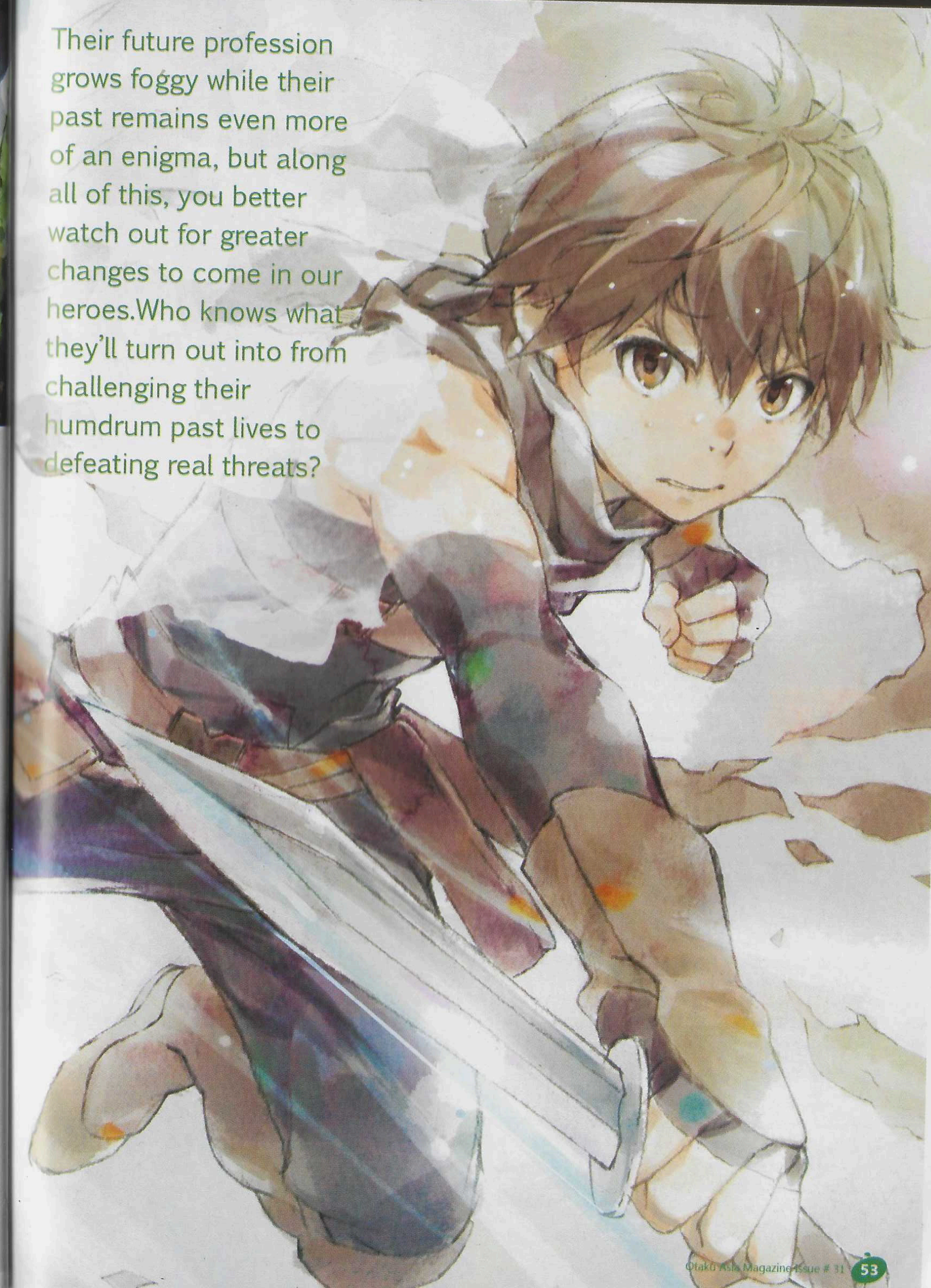


Although this progress might come a little too slow, we are expecting changes in the pace of the story as the characters get more handle with their roles and move up to the next level of challenges. Also, while the slow pace might make you lose track of the plot's promise,

the tranquility and real-life resemblance of the watercolor graphics

helps you to appreciate Grimgar of Fantasy and Ash's view of living in a game world, taking in the little details of their new lives rather than making a quick advance of the quests.

Their future profession grows foggy while their past remains even more of an enigma, but along all of this, you better watch out for greater changes to come in our heroes. Who knows what they'll turn out into from challenging their humdrum past lives to defeating real threats?







## CHARACTER BIO

by Mikelle

# HINAZUKI KAYO

Age: 10

Birthday: March 2, 1977

Hometown: Hokkaido

CV: Yuuki, Aoi

Hinazuki Kayo is an aloof, anti-social girl who always tried to avoid getting close to her fellow classmates. She was one of those individuals that lacks presence in class that doesn't appear to have any friends and refuses to strike a conversation with anyone; at least until she was saved by Fujinuma Satoru.

Kayo was one of Satoru's classmates back in primary school and is one of the original victims of the serial kidnapping case that occurred 18 years prior to the beginning of the story. After Satoru's Revival was triggered and he was sent back to his primary school days, he struggled and did everything he could in order to prevent the gruesome events from occurring and thus gaining a brighter future.

One of Satoru's counter measures was to befriend Kayo and add her to their circle of friends, which should lessen her alone time and thus prevent the culprit from abducting her. As a result of Satoru's efforts, Kayo was saved not only from the culprit, but also from her family's domestic violence which she has been enduring for a long time.

Hinazuki Kayo who once was a social outcast, managed to create bonds of friendship along with her classmates. Kayo is proof that despite all the hardships and sufferings that stand in one's way, never losing hope and trusting your friends would eventually lead you towards salvation.



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## One for all and All for victory

by John Robert Lim

## Kiznaiver



Have you heard of the seven deadly sins?

**Katsuhira Agata** is a resident of Sugomori City who has one very notable characteristic: his lack of empathy. Being unable to feel pain and emotions is the reason why he's been selected as a **Kiznaiver** for the **Kizuna System**.

Together with **Noriko Sonozaiki**, **Agata** forges a "kizuna", which allows the two to transmit and share their wounds. This allows Agata to experience this sensation that was so unknown to him before. However, more than allowing a deep way of connecting with someone, this new link could also open the doors to new trials, as Agata soon discovers that his classmates are also Kiznaivers from different rival groups. Will this system that aims to create peace by offering a powerful way of understanding each other ironically lead to an even stronger division among people?

Taking charge is none other than **Studio Trigger** (Kill la Kill). The first two episodes premiered in Sakura-Con which featured the voice of **Yuuki Kaji** (Eren Jaeger). What made this original anime stand out among the adaptations is its character designs by **Shirow Miwa** (supercell illustrator).

Kiznaiver already showed promise in the visuals department, something we have all come to expect out of Trigger. As the show is an anime original with no source material, this could be a great time to see what these guys' creative minds have in store for us. Judging from the premise at this point? A story that's interesting and has potential to be far deeper and meaning than it appears at first glance.

Scheduled to come out this April, Kiznaiver is sure to be one of the more ambitious shows in its season. Make sure to give it a shot!





Yes,  
the bear  
is my  
guardian

by kanddy

KUMA MIKO



A miko is a shrine maiden or a supplementary priestess who perform important roles in the daily shrine life. They are trained at a very young age to perform tasks such as cleansing and performing the sacred Kagura dance. Most youth would want to have the city life rather than the humble shrine life and that is how **Machi Amayadori** feels. However, her guardian thinks she is not ready for the outside world.

In the Kumade village somewhere in the Tohoku prefecture are people who live with the mountain bears. Literally translated to "Bear (and) Shrine Maiden", Kuma Miko is about a 14 yr old village shrine maiden who wants to move to the city. Her worrywart guardian, a mountain bear named Natsu, feels she is not cut out for the city. He decides to put her in a series of trials that she has to pass in order to move out.

Let's see if you can you pass: What do you use on the automatic turnstile in front of the station? A) Suica B) Apple C) Banana.

Kuma Miko is the anime version of **Masume Yoshimoto's** comedy manga with five volumes to date. **Kinema Citrus** and **EMT Squared's** adaptation will surely add some comedic flair to the already strong Spring 2016 anime lineup. The opening theme is "Datte, Gyutte Shite." by Maki Hanatani and main character voice actors Natsumi Hioka (as Machi) and Hiroki Yasumoto (as Natsu) performs "Kumimako Dancing" for ending theme.

Despite what happened in *The Revenant* (Leonardo Dicaprio got mauled by a bear) we think this is a good year for an anime with a bear. Looking back to the comedy anime we've been getting, this is most certainly lighter and fun. Glad to see an adaptation that did not come from a 4-koma manga. Despite the simple storyline, we see good character design (check out Machi's miko outfit) and great visuals since it is set in the mountains, expect lots of scenery!

Looking forward to an anime to get us laughing and learning about the miko life... and the village bumpkin life. Aah!! Machi no!! I won't call you a bumpkiiiiin!!!





# LIVE, DIE, REPEAT

By Reikisha

Re: Zero kara Hajimeru  
Isekai Seikatsu



When **Subaru Natsuki** found himself suddenly standing in front of a fruit merchant in a parallel universe, he did not panic very long.

Subaru is not like other main characters thrown in a parallel universe. He is fast in realizing that this could mean that a) he is now a main character, b) he would naturally have some kind of power and c) a beautiful girl has summoned him to the realm. But after getting mugged on the streets, he begins to understand that none of his initial estimation is real and that he dies in the end.

He then finds himself standing in front of the same fruit merchant but now with fresh memories of his death. It turns out that Subaru gained the ability to rewind time whenever he dies. Can a helpless young man save a girl from the fate of death with his "Return by Death" ability?

**Re: Zero kara Hajimeru Isekai Seikatsu** (or Re:Zero) is an on-going fantasy light novel series written by **Tappei Nagatsuki** and illustrated by **Shinichirou Ootsuka**. A 25-episode anime adaptation by White Fox premiered last April 4 with an hour-long episode.

The plot is dark and the viewers and Subaru are the only ones who know what is going to happen. So even though despair is lurking around the corner, the characters still talk casually to each other as if nothing bad is going to happen, as it always does. Will knowing the future help in changing the present? This makes this anime very interesting because it dips its finger in the reality that 'we never know what is going to happen' with a twist.

Almost every character in this series is a subverted version of a character archetype people normally see in most fantasy stories. For example, Subaru was introduced in the first 5 minutes of the episode as a shut-in, but somehow managed to display a bit of athleticism when retaliating against the thugs. The main heroine, named Satella, can be categorized as a tsundere, but not the type who resorts to violence when hiding her true feelings.

If you're looking for a series to fill the void left by shows like *Konosuba* and *Erased* in your heart last season, then you should check out Re:Zero's anime adaptation this spring!







## Boys Can Be Maids Too!

By Reikisha

### Shounen Maid



When **Chihiro Komiya**'s mother died from overwork, he's suddenly left homeless with supposedly no relatives rely on. As he wonders about what to do with his life, someone claiming to be his uncle shows up and wishes to adopt Chihiro from now on. According to **Madoka Takatori**, his mother doesn't want any help from her former family, so Chihiro feels the same regardless of his current situation.

To solve this problem, Madoka proposed to Chihiro that he should work for the Takatori family in exchange for three meals a day, free lodging and school tuition. Not as a butler, but as a maid?!

**Shounen Maid** is an on-going shoujo manga series by **Ototachibana**. It's published by **Comic B's-LOG** with a total of 9 volumes as of April 2016. A 12-episode anime adaptation by 8-Bit studios premiered last April 8.

#### CAST OF CHARACTERS

Natsumi Fujiwara as Chihiro Komiya  
Nobunaga Shimazaki as Madoka Takatori  
Tomoaki Maeno as Keiichi Shinozaki

Shounen Maid is a bit different from the usual shoujo stories we've seen so far. It's about the daily struggles of a young boy trying to become independent even though there are others willing to reach out for him. Since we usually see this with a female character, seeing a proud boy is a refreshing change of scene. All characters in this manga have odd quirks that are too interesting to ignore such as Chihiro's obsession with cleanliness and Madoka's childish mindset. Since they are an uncle-child pairing, don't expect any romantic relationships soon. However, to make up with the lack of romantic development, Shounen Maid has plenty of funny-yet-fluffy moments to make shoujo genre proud.







#THROWBACK



A LOOK BACK ON LAST YEAR!

PLEASE JOIN US NEXT O-KUN FIESTA

O-KUN FIESTA: MAY 16, 2015  
O-KUN FIESTA 2: JUNE 4-5, 2016

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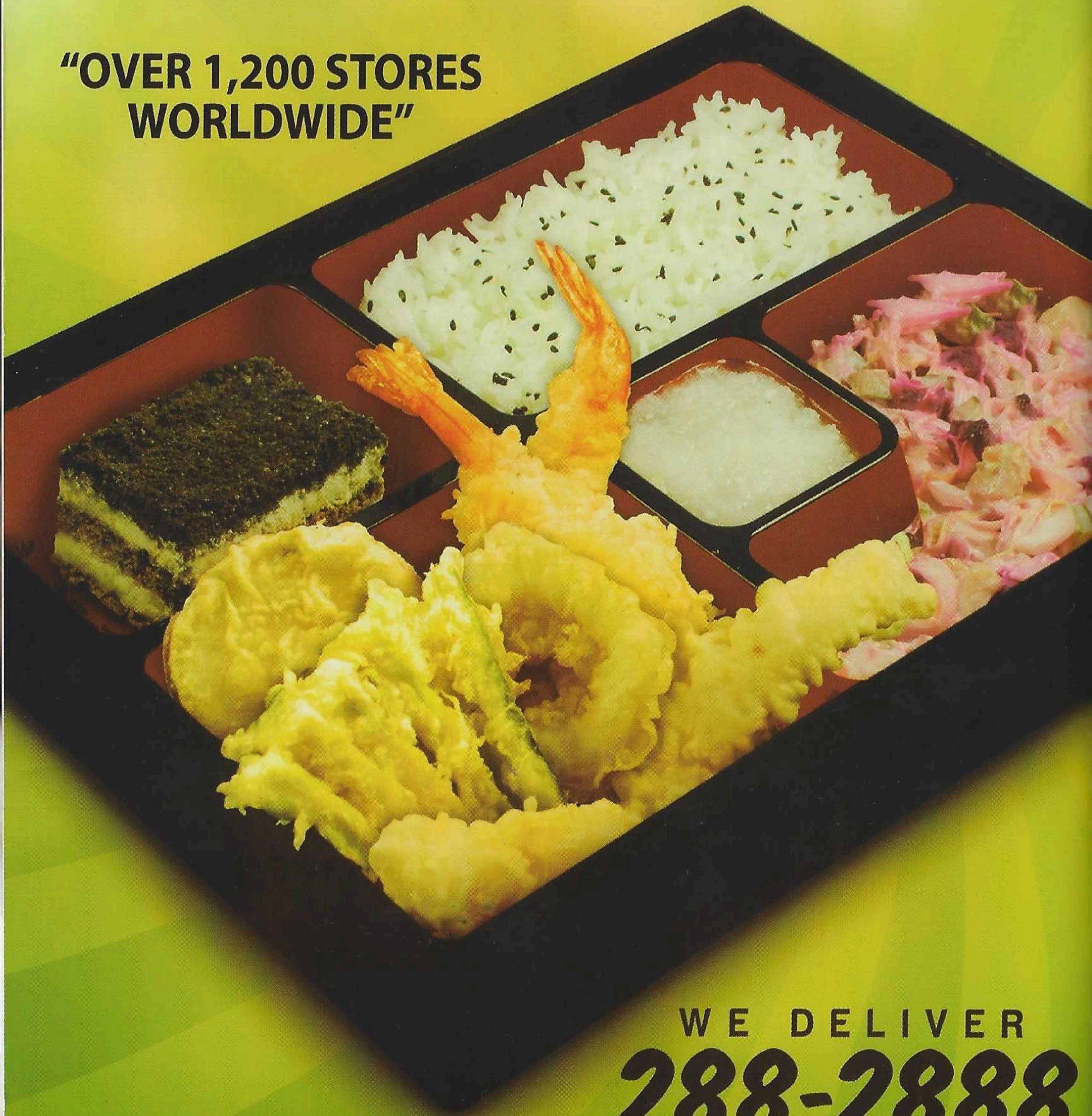




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